

LONDON:  
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# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

## THE QUEEN AND ROYAL FAMILY.

**THE QUEEN.**—VICTORIA, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, was born at Kensington Palace, May 24th, 1819 : succeeded to the throne, June 20th, 1837, on the death of her uncle, King William IV.; was crowned June 28th, 1838; and married, February 10th, 1840, his Royal Highness Prince Albert. Her Majesty is the only child of his late Royal Highness Edward Duke of Kent, son of King George III.

His Royal Highness Francis-ALBERT-Augustus-Charles-Emmanuel-Busici, DUKE OF SAXE, PRINCE OF COBURG AND GOTHA, K.G., Consort of her Majesty, born August 26th, 1819.

The children of her Majesty are:—

Her Royal Highness Victoria-Adelaide-Mary-Louisa, PRINCESS ROYAL, born November 21st, 1840.

His Royal Highness Albert-Edward, PRINCE OF WALES, born November 9th, 1841.

Her Royal Highness Alice-Maud-Mary, born April 25th, 1843.

His Royal Highness Alfred-Ernest-Albert, born August 6th, 1844.

Her Royal Highness Princess Helena-Augusta-Victoria, born May 25, 1846.

Her Royal Highness Princess Louisa-Carolina-Alberta, born March 18, 1848.

His Royal Highness Arthur-William-Patrick-Albert, born May 1st, 1850.

His Royal Highness Leopold-George-Duncan-Albert, born April 7, 1853.

George-Frederick-William-Charles, K.G., DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, cousin to her Majesty, born March 26th, 1819.

Mary, DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER, aunt to her Majesty, born April 25th, 1776; married, July 22nd, 1816, to her cousin, the Duke of Gloucester, deceased.

Victoria-Mary-Louisa, DUCHESS OF KENT, her Majesty's mother, born August 17th, 1786; married, in 1818, to the Duke of Kent, who died January 23rd, 1820.

Augusta-Wilhelmina-Louisa, DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE, niece of the Landgrave of Hesse, born July 25th, 1795; married, in 1818, the late Duke of Cambridge, by whom she has issue, George-William, Augusta-Caroline, and Mary-Adelaide.

George-Frederick-Alexander-Charles-Ernest-Augustus, K.G., KING OF HANOVER, cousin to her Majesty, born May 27, 1819; married, February, 1843, Princess Mary of Saxe-Altenberg, and has a son.

Augusta-Caroline-Charlotte-Elizabeth-Mary-Sophia-Louisa, daughter of the late Duke of Cambridge, and cousin to her Majesty; born July 19th, 1822; married, June 28th, 1843, Frederick, Hereditary Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz.

Mary-Adelaide-Wilhelmina-Elizabeth, daughter of the late Duke of Cambridge, and cousin to her Majesty, born November 27th, 1832.

## THE QUEEN'S HOUSEHOLD.

|                                       |    |  |
|---------------------------------------|----|--|
| Lord Great Chamberlain ..             | .. | Lord Willoughby D'Eresby   |
| Lord Steward ..                       | .. | Earl Spencer   |
| Lord Chamberlain ..                   | .. | Marquess of Bredalbane   |
| Vice-Chamberlain ..                   | .. | Lord E. A. C. B. Bruce   |
| Master of the Horse ..                | .. | Duke of Wellington   |
| Clerk Marshal and Chief Equerry ..    | .. | Lord Alfred Paget  |
| Treasurer of the Household ..         | .. | Earl of Mulgrave   |
| Comptroller of the Household ..       | .. | Viscount Drumlanrig  |
| Lord High Almoner ..                  | .. | Bishop of Oxford   |
| Sub-Almoner ..                        | .. | Rev. Dr. Jelf  |
| Clerk of the Closet ..                | .. | Bishop of Chester  |
| Master of the Buckhounds ..           | .. | Earl of Bessborough  |
| Comptroller of Accounts ..            | .. | Norman Hilton Macdonald, Esq.  |
| Master of the Household ..            | .. | Lieut.-Col T. M. Biddulph  |
| Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard .. | .. | Viscount Sydney  |
| Captain of Gentlemen-at-Arms ..       | .. | Lord Foley   |
| Lords in Waiting ..                   | .. | { Lord Camoys, Earl Somers, Lord Rivers,<br>Lord Waterpark, Lord de Tabley,<br>Earl of Listowel, Lord Byron  |
| Mistress of the Robes ..              | .. | { The Duchess of Sutherland<br>Duchess of Wellington, Duchess of Atholl, Lady Churchill, Countess of Desart, Countess of Gainsborough,<br>Viscountess Jocelyn, Viscountess Canning, and Marchioness of Ely |
| Ladies of the Bedchamber ..           | .. | {  |
| Physicians ..                         | .. | Sir J. Clark, Sir H. Holland   |
| Physicians-Accoucheurs ..             | .. | Dr. Locock, Dr. Ferguson   |
| Surgeons ..                           | .. | Sir B. C. Brodie, Bart., R. Keate, Esq.  |

## HER MAJESTY'S MINISTERS.

|   |                                |   |
|---|--------------------------------|---|
| First Lord of the Treasury (Premier) .. | ..                             | Earl of Aberdeen  |
| Lord Chancellor ..                      | ..                             | Lord Cranworth  |
| Lord President of the Council ..        | ..                             | Lord John Russell   |
| Lord Privy Seal ..                      | ..                             | Duke of Argyll  |
| Secretaries of State ..                 | { Home Foreign<br>Colonial War | Viscount Palmerston<br>Earl of Clarendon<br>Rt. Hon. Sir George Grey<br>Duke of Newcastle |
| Chancellor of the Exchequer ..          | ..                             | Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone  |
| President of the Board of Control ..    | ..                             | Right Hon. Sir C. Wood  |
| First Lord of the Admiralty ..          | ..                             | Right Hon. Sir J. R. G. Graham  |
| Secretary-at-War ..                     | ..                             | Right Hon. Sidney Herbert   |
| Commissioner of Public Works ..         | ..                             | Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth  |
| Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster .. | ..                             | Earl Granville  |
| Without office ..                       | (The above form the Cabinet.)  | Marquis of Lansdowne  |
| President of the Board of Trade ..      | ..                             | Right Hon. E. Cardwell  |
| Postmaster-General ..                   | ..                             | Viscount Canning  |
| Attorney-General ..                     | ..                             | Sir A. J. E. Cockburn   |
| Solicitor-General ..                    | ..                             | Sir R. Bethell  |
| Chief Commissioner of Poor Law Board .. | ..                             | Right Hon. M. T. Baines   |
| President of General Board of Health .. | ..                             | Sir B. Hall, Bart.  |
| General Commanding in Chief ..          | ..                             | Viscount Hardinge   |

## IRELAND.

|   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| Lord Lieutenant, Earl St. Germans ..      | .. | SCOTLAND.                                  |
| Lord Chancellor, Right Hon. M. Brady ..   | .. | Lord High Constable, The Earl of           |
| Chief Secretary, Sir John Young, Bart.    | .. | Erroll                                     |
| Attorney-General, Rt. Hon. A. Brewster .. | .. | Lord Privy Seal, Lord Panmure              |
| Solicitor-General, W. Keogh, Esq.         | .. | Lord Advocate, Right Hon. James Moncrieff. |

## CITY OFFICERS.

### LORD MAYOR.

The Right Hon. F. G. MOON, (Portsmouth Ward, 1844.)

Elected September 29th—Sworn in November 9th.

### SHERIFFS.

Alderman Henry Muggeridge, Esq. | Charles Decimus Crosley, Esq.

### UNDER-SHERIFFS.

Frederick Farrar, Esq. | Alexander Crosley, Esq.

### CHAMBERLAIN.

Sir John Key, Bart., Elected 1853.

### RECORDED.

Right Hon. J. A. Stuart Wortley, M.P.

### ALDERMEN.

#### THE FOLLOWING HAVE PASSED THE CHAIR.

|                               |    |                        |    |    |    |      |
|-------------------------------|----|------------------------|----|----|----|------|
| Laurie, Sir Peter, Knt. ..    | .. | Aldersgate ..          | .. | .. | .. | 1826 |
| Farebrother, C., Esq. ..      | .. | Lane-street ..         | .. | .. | .. | 1826 |
| Copeland, W. T., Esq. ..      | .. | Bishopsgate ..         | .. | .. | .. | 1829 |
| Kelly, T., Esq. ..            | .. | Farringdon Within ..   | .. | .. | .. | 1830 |
| Wilson, Samuel, Esq. ..       | .. | Bridge Without Ward .. | .. | .. | .. | 1831 |
| Muggeridge, Henry, Esq. ..    | .. | Castle Baynard ..      | .. | .. | .. | 1831 |
| Marshall, Sir C., Knt. ..     | .. | Bridge Within ..       | .. | .. | .. | 1832 |
| Humphry, J., Esq. ..          | .. | Aldgate ..             | .. | .. | .. | 1835 |
| Magnay, Sir William, Bart. .. | .. | Vintry ..              | .. | .. | .. | 1838 |
| Carroll, Sir George ..        | .. | Candlewick ..          | .. | .. | .. | 1840 |
| Duke, Sir James ..            | .. | Farringdon Without ..  | .. | .. | .. | 1840 |
| Farncombe, Thomas, Esq. ..    | .. | Bassishaw ..           | .. | .. | .. | 1842 |
| Munsrove, Sir John, Bart. ..  | .. | Broad-street ..        | .. | .. | .. | 1843 |
| Hunter, William, Esq. ..      | .. | Coleman-street ..      | .. | .. | .. | 1843 |
| Challis, Thomas, Esq. ..      | .. | Cripplegate ..         | .. | .. | .. | 1843 |
| Sidney, Thomas, Esq. ..       | .. | Billingsgate ..        | .. | .. | .. | 1844 |

#### THE FOLLOWING HAVE NOT PASSED THE CHAIR.

|                                 |    |                 |    |    |    |      |
|---------------------------------|----|-----------------|----|----|----|------|
| Salomons, David, Esq. ..        | .. | Cordwainer ..   | .. | .. | .. | 1848 |
| Finnis, Thomas Quested, Esq. .. | .. | Tower ..        | .. | .. | .. | 1848 |
| Lawrence, William, Esq. ..      | .. | Bread-street .. | .. | .. | .. | 1848 |
| Carden, Sir Robert Walter ..    | .. | Dowgate ..      | .. | .. | .. | 1849 |
| Wire, David W., Esq. ..         | .. | Walbrook ..     | .. | .. | .. | 1851 |
| Cubitt, William, Esq. ..        | .. | Langbourne ..   | .. | .. | .. | 1851 |
| Carter, J., Esq. ..             | .. | Cornhill ..     | .. | .. | .. | 1851 |
| Kennedy, Richard H., Esq. ..    | .. | Cheap ..        | .. | .. | .. | 1854 |
| Rose, W. A., Esq. ..            | .. | Queenhithe ..   | .. | .. | .. | 1854 |

## EAST INDIA COMPANY.

### DIRECTORS.

CHAIRMAN—Major James Oliphant.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN—Elliot Macnaghten, Esq.

|                                     |    |                                  |
|-------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|
| William Butterworth Bayley, Esq. .. | .. | Henry Thoby Princep, Esq.        |
| John Shepherd, Esq. ..              | .. | Sir Henry Willcock.              |
| Charles Mills, Esq. ..              | .. | Sir James Weir Hogg, Bart.       |
| Martin Tucker Smith, Esq. ..        | .. | Lient.-Col. William Henry Sykes. |
| Hon. W. H. L. Melville. ..          | .. | William Joseph Eastwick, Esq.    |
| Ross Donnelly Mangles, Esq. ..      | .. | Lient.-Gen. Sir George Pollock.  |
| Russell Ellice, Esq. ..             | .. | John Pollard Willoughby, Esq.    |
| John Harvey Astell, Esq. ..         | .. | Sir Frederick Currie, Bart.      |

## BANK OF ENGLAND.

GOVERNOR—John Gellibrand Hubbard, Esq.

DEPUTY GOVERNOR—Thomas M. Weguelin, Esq.

### DIRECTORS.

|                                 |    |                            |
|---------------------------------|----|----------------------------|
| Edward H. Chapman, Esq. ..      | .. | James Morris, Esq.         |
| William Cotton, Esq. ..         | .. | George Warde Norman, Esq.  |
| Robert W. Crawford, Esq. ..     | .. | John Horsley Palmer, Esq.  |
| Benjamin B. Greene, Esq. ..     | .. | Henry James Prescott, Esq. |
| Henry Hicks Gibbs, Esq. ..      | .. | Thomas Baring, Esq.        |
| Thomson Hankey, jun., Esq. ..   | .. | H. W. Blake, Esq.          |
| John Oliver Hanson, Esq. ..     | .. | C. F. Huth, Esq.           |
| John Benjamin Heath, Esq. ..    | .. | George Lyall, Esq.         |
| Kirkman D. Hodgson, Esq. ..     | .. | Thomas Masterman, Esq.     |
| Henry Lancelot Holland, Esq. .. | .. | Alexander Matheson, Esq.   |
| Thomas Newman Hunt, Esq. ..     | .. | T. C. Smith, Esq.          |
| Alfred Lathom, Esq. ..          | .. | F. Wilson, Esq.            |

## LAW COURTS.

CHANCERY.—Lord High Chancellor, Lord Cranworth. Master of the Rolls, Sir John Romilly. Vice-Chancellors: Sir Richard Kindersley, Sir J. Stuart, Sir W. Page Wood.

LODGE JUSTICES OF APPEAL.—Sir James L. Knight Bruce, Sir George J. Turner, QUEEN'S BENCH.—Lord Chief Justice, Lord Campbell. Judges: Sir John T. Coleridge, Sir Wm. Wightman, Sir Wm. Erle, Sir Charles Crompton.

COMMON PLEAS.—Lord Chief Justice, Sir John Jervis. Judges: Sir Wm. Hen. Maule, Sir C. Cresswell, Sir Edward Vaughan Williams, Sir Richard Budden Crowder.

EXCHEQUER.—Lord Chief Baron, Sir Frederick Pollock. Barons: Sir James Parke, Sir Edw. H. Alderson, Sir Thomas J. Platt, Sir Samuel Martin.

CURSITON BARON.—Right Hon. George Banks.

## COURT OF BANKRUPTCY.

London.—Joshua Evans, Esq., John Samuel Martin Fonblanche, Esq., Robert George Cecil Fane, Esq., Edward Holroyd, Esq., Edward Goulburn, D.C.L., Serjeant-at-Law.

Birmingham.—John Balguy, Esq., Q.C.

Liverpool.—Richard Stevenson, Esq., and H. J. Perry, Esq.

Manchester.—Walter Skirrow, Esq., Q.C., and William Thos. Jemmett, Esq.

Leeds.—Martin John West, Esq., and William Scrope Ayrton, Esq.

Bristol.—Matthew Davenport Hill, Esq., Q.C.

Exeter.—Montague Baker Bere, Esq.

Newcastle.—N. Ellison, Esq.

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

## ON THE CALENDAR.

**PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF THE CALENDAR, FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1855.**

| Dominical Letter | Gregorian, or New Calendar. | Julian, or Old Calendar. |
|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Golden Number    | G                           | B                        |
| Roman Indiction  | 13                          | 13                       |
| Solar Cycle      | 13                          | 13                       |
| Epact            | 16                          | 16                       |
|                  | 12                          | 23                       |

### CORRESPONDENCE OF THE YEAR 1855 WITH ANCIENT ERAS.

The year 1855, till September 12, is the latter part of the 5615th, and from September 13, is the first part of the 5616th year since the Creation of the World, according to the Jews.

The year 1855 is the 6568th year of the Julian Period. The first day of the year 1855 is the 2,398,585th day since the commencement of the Julian Period.

The year 1855 is the 2608th year from the foundation of Rome (according to Varro).

The year 1855 is the 2631st year of the Olympiads; or the third year of the 638th Olympiad will commence in July, 1855, if we fix the era of the Olympiads at 775½ years before Christ, or at or about the beginning of July of the year 3938 of the Julian Period.

The year 1855 is the 2602nd year of the era of Nabonassar, which has been assigned to Wednesday, the 26th of February; of the 3967th year of the Julian Period, which corresponds, according to chronologists, to the 747th, and, according to astronomers, to the 746th year before the birth of Christ.

The year 1855 is the latter part of the 1271st, and the first part of the 1272nd year (of twelve lunations) since the Hegira, or flight of Mahomet, which it is generally supposed took place on the 16th of July, in the year 622 of the Christian era. The year 1271 commenced on the 24th of September 1854, and ends on the 12th of September, 1855. And the year 1272 commences on the 13th of September, 1855.

The year 1855 is the latter part of the 7624th year, and the beginning of the 7625th of the Byzantine era.

## CALENDAR OF THE JEWS FOR THE YEAR 1855.

| 5615.      |     | 1854.     |       | NEW MOONS AND FEASTS.                 |  |
|------------|-----|-----------|-------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Tebeth     | 1   | December  | 22    |                                       |  |
| "          | 10  | "         | 31    |                                       |  |
|            |     |           | 1855. |                                       |  |
| Schebat    | 1   | January   | 20    |                                       |  |
| Adar       | 1   | February  | 19    |                                       |  |
| "          | 11  | March     | 1     |                                       |  |
| "          | 14  | "         | 4     |                                       |  |
| "          | 15  | "         | 5     |                                       |  |
| Nisan      | 1   | "         | 20    |                                       |  |
| "          | 15  | April     | 3     | Passover begins*                      |  |
| "          | 16  | "         | 4     | Second day*                           |  |
| "          | 21  | "         | 9     | Seventh day*                          |  |
| "          | 22  | "         | 10    | Passover ends*                        |  |
| Ijar       | 1   | "         | 19    | Lag Beomer                            |  |
| "          | 18  | May       | 6     |                                       |  |
| Sivan      | 1   | "         | 18    | Pentecost Holidays : Feast of Weeks*  |  |
| "          | 6   | "         | 23    | Second day*                           |  |
| "          | 7   | "         | 24    |                                       |  |
| Tamuz      | 1   | June      | 17    | Fast : Seizure of the Temple by Titus |  |
| "          | 17  | July      | 3     |                                       |  |
| Ab         | 1   | "         | 16    | Fast : Destruction of the Temple*     |  |
| "          | 9   | "         | 24    |                                       |  |
| Elul       | 1   | August    | 15    |                                       |  |
| 5616       |     |           |       |                                       |  |
| Tisri      | 1   | September | 13    | Feast of the New Year*                |  |
| "          | 2   | "         | 14    | Second Day of the Feast*              |  |
| "          | 4   | "         | 16    | Fast : Death of Gedaliah              |  |
| "          | 10  | "         | 22    | Fast : Day of Atonement*              |  |
| "          | 15  | "         | 27    | Feast of Tabernacles*                 |  |
| "          | 16  | "         | 28    | Second day*                           |  |
| "          | 21  | October   | 3     | Feast of Branches                     |  |
| "          | 22  | "         | 4     | End of the Feast of Tabernacles*      |  |
| "          | 23  | "         | 5     | Feast of the Law*                     |  |
| Marchesvan | 1   | "         | 13    |                                       |  |
| Kislev     | 1   | November  | 11    | Feast of the Dedication of the Temple |  |
| "          | 25  | December  | 5     |                                       |  |
| Tebeth     | " 1 | "         | 10    | Fast : Siege of Jerusalem             |  |
| "          | 10  | "         | 19    |                                       |  |
|            |     |           | 1856. |                                       |  |
| Schebit    | 1   | January   | 8     |                                       |  |

The Anniversaries marked with an asterisk (\*) are to be strictly observed.

The Jewish Year contains 354 days, or 12 Lunations of the Moon; but, in a cycle of 19 years, an intercalary month (Yedear) is 7 times introduced, for the purpose of rendering the average duration of the year nearly correct.

## MOHAMMEDAN CALENDAR FOR THE YEAR 1855.

| Year.         | Names of the Months. | Month begins.         |
|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Hegiri; 1271. | Rebia II. ..         | .. December 23, 1854. |
| "             | Gomedhi I. ..        | .. January 20, 1855.  |
| "             | Gomedhi II. ..       | .. February 19, "     |
| "             | Rejeb ..             | .. March 20, "        |
| "             | Scheban ..           | .. April 19, "        |
| "             | Ramedan ..           | .. May 18, "          |
| "             | Schewale ..          | .. June 17, "         |
| "             | Dsu'l-Kidah ..       | .. July 16, "         |
| "             | Dsu'l-hejrah ..      | .. August 15, "       |
| Hegiri; 1272. | Mohareem I. ..       | .. September 13, "    |
| "             | Safar I. ..          | .. October 13, "      |
| "             | Rebia I. ..          | .. November 11, "     |
| "             | Rebia II. ..         | .. December 11, "     |
| "             | Gomedhi I. ..        | .. January 9, 1856.   |

(For remarks on the Mohammedan Calendar, see the Almanack for the year 1848.)

## BEGINNING OF THE SEASONS, 1855.

| D.   | H.            | M.        |
|--|---------------|-----------|
| The Sun enters Capricornus (Winter begins) | 1854, Dec. 22 | 2 59 A.   |
| " Aries (Spring begins)                    | 1855, Mar. 21 | 4 7 A.M.  |
| " Cancer (Summer begins)                   | " June 22     | 0 49 A.M. |
| " Libra (Autumn begins)                    | " Sept. 23    | 2 59 P.M. |
| " Capricornus (Winter begins)              | " Dec. 22     | 8 48 A.M. |

## DURATION OF THE SEASONS, AND THE YEAR 1855.

|                                     |         |        |           |
|-------------------------------------|---------|--------|-----------|
| The Sun will be in the Winter signs | 89 Days | 1 Hour | 8 Minutes |
| Spring                              | 92 "    | 20 "   | 42 "      |
| " Summer                            | 93 "    | 14 "   | 10 "      |
| " Autumn                            | 89 "    | 17 "   | 49 "      |

So that the period of Summer is 4 days, 13 hours, and 2 minutes longer than that of Winter; 3 days, 20 hours, and 21 minutes longer than that of Autumn; and 17 hours and 28 minutes longer than that of Spring.

The Sun will be on the Equator and going North

The Sun will reach his greatest North declination

The Sun will be on the Equator and going South

The Sun will reach his greatest South declination

The Sun will be North of the Equator (comprising the periods of Spring and Summer) 186 days 10 hours 52 minutes.

The Sun will be South of the Equator (comprising the periods of Autumn and Winter) 178 days 18 hours 57 minutes.

The length of the Tropical Year, commencing at the Winter Solstice 1854, and ending at the Winter Solstice 1855, is 365 days 5 hours 49 minutes.

## FIXED AND MOVEABLE FESTIVALS, ANNIVERSARIES, &c.

|   |         |                                  |           |
|---|---------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Epiphany .. ..                          | Jan. 6  | Birth of Queen Victoria ..       | May 24    |
| Martyrdom of King Charles I. ..         | 30      | Pentecost—Whit Sunday ..         | " 27      |
| Septuagesima Sunday ..                  | Feb. 4  | Restoration of King Chas. II. .. | " 29      |
| Quinquagesima—Shrove Sun. ..            | 18      | Trinity Sunday ..                | June 3    |
| Ash Wednesday .. ..                     | 21      | Corpus Christi ..                | " 7       |
| Quadragesima—1st Sunday } in Lent .. .. | 25      | Accession of Queen Victoria ..   | " 20      |
| St. David .. ..                         | March 1 | Proclamation ..                  | " 21      |
| St. Patrick .. ..                       | 17      | St. John Baptist—Midsum- ..      | " 24      |
| Annunciation—Lady Day ..                | 25      | mer Day ..                       | " ..      |
| Palm Sunday .. ..                       | April 1 | Birth of Prince Albert ..        | August 26 |
| Good Friday .. ..                       | 6       | St. Michael—Michaelmas Day ..    | Sep. 29   |
| EASTER SUNDAY .. ..                     | 8       | Gunpowder Plot ..                | Nov. 5    |
| Low Sunday .. ..                        | 15      | Birth of Prince of Wales ..      | " 9       |
| St. George .. ..                        | 23      | St. Andrew ..                    | " ..      |
| Rogation Sunday .. ..                   | May 13  | 1st Sunday in Advent ..          | Dec. 2    |
| Ascension Day—Holy Thursday ..          | 17      | St. Thomas ..                    | " 21      |
|   |         | CHRISTMAS DAY .. ..              | " ..      |

## ASTRONOMICAL SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS.

|  |               |                   |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| ○ The Sun  | 13 Egeria     | ♀ Neptune         |
| ☽ New Moon   | 14 Irene      | ☊ Ascending Node  |
| ☽ First Quarter of Moon  | 15 Eunomia    | ☋ Descending Node |
| ○ Full Moon  | 16 Psyche     | N North           |
| ☽ Last Quarter of Moon   | 17 Thetis     | E East            |
| ☿ Mercury  | 18 Melpomene  | S South           |
| ♀ Venus  | 19 Fortuna    | W West            |
| ⊕ or ☽ The Earth   | 20 Massilia   | ° Degrees         |
| ♂ Mars   | 21 Lutetia    | ' Minutes of Arc  |
| ♃ Jupiter  | 22 Calliope   | " Seconds of Arc  |
| ♄ Saturn   | 23 Thalia     | D Days            |
| ♂ Uranus   | 24 Themis     | H Hours           |
| ♃ Neptune  | 25 Phoebe     | M Minutes of Time |
| ♄ Pluto  | 26 Proserpine | S Seconds of Time |
| ☿ Hebe   | 27 Euterpe    | ○ Sunday          |
| ♃ Iris   | 28 Bellona    | ☽ Monday          |
| ♃ Flora  | 29 Amphitrite | ♂ Tuesday         |
| ♃ Metis  | 30 Urania     | ♃ Wednesday       |
| ♃ Hygiea   | 24 Jupiter    | ♄ Thursday        |
| ♃ Parthenope   | 25 Saturn     | ♀ Friday          |
| ♃ Victoria   | 26 Uranus     | ♃ Saturday        |
| The Symbol ☽ Conjunction, or having the same Longitude or Right Ascension. |               |                   |
| " ☽ Quadrature, or differing 90° in Longitude or Right Ascension.          |               |                   |
| " ☽ Opposition, or differing 180° in Longitude or Right Ascension.         |               |                   |

(For explanation of Astronomical terms, see Almanack for the year 1848.)

## LAW TERMS, 1855.

|  |                   |                 |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| As Settled by Statutes 2 George IV, and 1 William IV., cap. 70, s. 6 (passed July 23rd, 1830), and 1 William IV., cap. 3, s. 2 (passed December 23rd, 1830). |                   |                 |
| Hilary Term .. ..  | Begins January 11 | Ends January 31 |
| Easter Term .. ..  | " April 15        | " May 8         |
| Trinity Term .. ..   | " May 22          | " June 12       |
| Michaelmas Term .. ..  | " Nov. 2          | " Nov. 26       |

## UNIVERSITY TERMS, 1855.

| OXFORD.          | TERM.      | BEGINS.     | ENDS. |
|------------------|------------|-------------|-------|
| Lent .. ..       | January 15 | March 31    |       |
| Easter .. ..     | April 18   | May 26      |       |
| Trinity .. ..    | May 30     | July 7      |       |
| Michaelmas .. .. | October 10 | December 17 |       |

The Act, July 3.

| CAMBRIDGE.       | TERM.    | BEGINS.           | DIVIDES. | ENDS. |
|------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|-------|
| Lent .. ..       | Jan. 13  | Feb. 20, Noon     |          |       |
| Easter .. ..     | April 18 | May 27, Midnight  |          |       |
| Michaelmas .. .. | Oct. 10  | Nov. 12, Midnight |          |       |

The Commencement, July 3.

JANUARY.



BATTLE OF CORUNNA, JANUARY 16TH, 1809.—DEATH OF

SIR JOHN MOORE.

| Day of Month | Day of Week | ANNIVERSARIES,<br>FESTIVALS,<br>OCCURRENCES, &c. | SUN.    |                   |                              |                              |    |       | MOON.                            |                                  |                                |                              |       |          | DURATION OF MOONLIGHT. |   |    |               |             |   | HIGH WATER<br>AT LONDON BRIDGE. |      | Day of<br>the Year. |          |      |    |
|--------------|-------------|--|---------|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|----|-------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------|----------|------------------------|---|----|---------------|-------------|---|---------------------------------|------|---------------------|----------|------|----|
|              |             |  | SOUTHS. |                   |                              | SETS.                        |    |       | SOUTHS.                          |                                  |                                | SETS.                        |       |          | Before Sunrise.        |   |    | After Sunset. |             |   | Morning.                        |      | Afternoon.          |          |      |    |
|              |             |  | Rises.  | After 12 o'Clock. | Height above horizon         | Afternoon                    | M. | h. m. | Rises.                           | Afternoon                        | Height above horizon           | Morning.                     | h. m. | O'Clock. | 2                      | 4 | 6  | 8             | Moon's Age. | 4 | 6                               | 8    | 10                  | 12       |      |    |
| 1            | M           | Circumcision                                     | 8       | 8                 | 3 44                         | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 4  | 0     | 2                                | 13                               | 10 57                          | 64 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 6 46  |          |                        |   |    |               | 13          |   |                                 |      |                     | 0 35     | 0 59 | 1  |
| 2            | TU          | Rigel souths 10h 20m P.M.                        | 8       | 8                 | 4 12                         | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 4  | 1     | 2                                | 57                               | 11 49                          | 65                           | 7 48  |          |                        |   |    |               | 14          |   |                                 |      |                     | 1 22     | 1 44 | 2  |
| 3            | W           | Length of day 7h 54m                             | 8       | 8                 | 4 40                         | 15 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 2     | 3                                | 49                               | Morning.                       |                              | 8 41  |          |                        |   |    |               | 15          |   |                                 |      |                     | 2 3      | 2 24 | 3  |
| 4            | TH          | Pleiades due S. at 8h 43m P.M.                   | 8       | 8                 | 5 7                          | 15 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 3     | 4                                | 52                               | 0 40                           | 64 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 9 24  |          |                        |   |    |               | 16          |   |                                 |      |                     | 2 44     | 3 2  | 4  |
| 5            | F           | [Twelfth Day                                     | 8       | 8                 | 5 34                         | 15 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 4     | 6                                | 0                                | 1 29                           | 62 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 9 53  |          |                        |   |    |               | 17          |   |                                 |      |                     | 3 19     | 3 39 | 5  |
| 6            | S           | Epiph. O.C.D.                                    | 8       | 7                 | 6                            | 1 16                         | 4  | 6     | 7                                | 10                               | 2 16                           | 59 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 10 17 |          |                        |   |    |               | 18          |   |                                 |      |                     | 3 55     | 4 13 | 6  |
| 7            | S           | 1ST S. aft EPIPH.                                | 8       | 7                 | 6 27                         | 16 4                         | 7  | 8     | 22                               | 3                                | 1 55                           | 10 35                        |       |          |                        |   |    | 19            |             |   |                                 |      | 4 31                | 4 47     | 7    |    |
| 8            | M           | Plough Mo. Fire                                  | 8       | 7                 | 6 53                         | 16 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 8     | 9 32                             | 3 44                             | 50 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>   | 10 49                        |       |          |                        |   |    | 20            |             |   |                                 |      | 5 4                 | 5 20     | 8    |    |
| 9            | TU          | Lucien [Ins.d.]                                  | 8       | 6                 | 7 18                         | 16 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 9     | 10 42                            | 4 25                             | 45                             | 11 2                         |       |          |                        |   |    | 21            |             |   |                                 |      | 5 38                | 5 57     | 9    |    |
| 10           | W           | Capella souths 9h 47m P.M.                       | 8       | 6                 | 7 43                         | 16 <sup>2</sup> <sub>1</sub> | 4  | 10    | 11 54                            | 5                                | 6 39 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 11 14                        |       |          |                        |   |    | 22            |             |   |                                 |      | 6 17                | 6 36     | 10   |    |
| 11           | TH          | Hilary Term b.                                   | 8       | 5                 | 8 7                          | 16 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 11    | Morning.                         | 5 48                             | 33 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 11 27                        |       |          |                        |   |    | 23            |             |   |                                 |      | 6 56                | 7 17     | 11   |    |
| 12           | F           | [Y's.d. Cam.T.b.                                 | 8       | 4                 | 8 30                         | 16 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 13    | 1                                | 8                                | 6 31                           | 27 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 11 39 |          |                        |   |    |               | 24          |   |                                 |      |                     | 7 42     | 8 12 | 12 |
| 13           | S           | St. Hil. Old New                                 | 8       | 3                 | 8 53                         | 17 4                         | 14 | 2     | 28                               | 7 19                             | 22                             | 11 57                        |       |          |                        |   |    | 25            |             |   |                                 |      | 8 43                | 9 17     | 13   |    |
| 14           | S           | 2ND S. aft EPIPH.                                | 8       | 2                 | 9 16                         | 17 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 16    | 3 51                             | 8 11                             | 17 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>   | Afternoon                    |       |          |                        |   |    | 26            |             |   |                                 |      | 9 49                | 10 25    | 14   |    |
| 15           | M           | Oxf. Term begins                                 | 8       | 2                 | 9 37                         | 17 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 18    | 5 19                             | 9 9                              | 13 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>   | 0 52                         |       |          |                        |   |    | 27            |             |   |                                 |      | 11 2 11             | 38 15    |      |    |
| 16           | TU          | Day breaks 6h                                    | 8       | 1                 | 9 59                         | 17 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 4  | 19    | 6 40                             | 10 12                            | 11                             | 1 40                         |       |          |                        |   |    | 28            |             |   |                                 |      | No Tide.            | 0 9 16   |      |    |
| 17           | W           | Aldebaran souths Sh 41m P.M.                     | 8       | 0 10 19           | 17 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4                            | 21 | 7 50  | 11 18                            | 10 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>     | 2 48                           |                              |       |          |                        |   | 29 |               |             |   |                                 | 0 40 | 1 9 17              |          |      |    |
| 18           | TH          | Prisca. Old T.D.                                 | 7       | 59                | 10 38                        | 18 4                         | 22 | 8 42  | Afternoon                        | 12 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>     | 4 13                           |                              |       |          |                        |   | 30 |               |             |   |                                 | 1 38 | 2 3 18              |          |      |    |
| 19           | F           | Day increased 41m                                | 7       | 58                | 10 57                        | 18 4                         | 24 | 9 19  | 1 28                             | 16 <sup>2</sup> <sub>1</sub>     | 5 48                           |                              |       |          |                        |   | 31 |               |             |   |                                 | 2 29 | 2 55                | 19       |      |    |
| 20           | S           | Fabian   | 7       | 57                | 11 16                        | 18 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 25    | 9 43                             | 2 25                             | 22 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>   | 7 20                         |       |          |                        |   |    | 32            |             |   |                                 |      | 3 21                | 3 47     | 20   |    |
| 21           | S           | 3RD S. aft. EPIPH.                               | 7       | 56                | 11 33                        | 18 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 27    | 10 3                             | 3 19                             | 28 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 8 49                         |       |          |                        |   |    | 33            |             |   |                                 |      | 4 9                 | 4 33     | 21   |    |
| 22           | M           | Vincent  | 7       | 55                | 11 50                        | 18 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 29    | 10 18                            | 4 8 35 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 10 14                          |                              |       |          |                        |   | 34 |               |             |   |                                 | 4 56 | 5 20                | 22       |      |    |
| 23           | Tu          | Rigel souths 8h 57m P.M.                         | 7       | 54                | 12 5 19                      | 4                            | 31 | 10 32 | 4 55                             | 41 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>     | 11 33                          |                              |       |          |                        |   | 35 |               |             |   |                                 | 5 43 | 6 4 23              |          |      |    |
| 24           | W           | Twilight ends 6h 30                              | 7       | 53                | 12 21                        | 19 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 33    | 10 48                            | 5 41                             | 48                             | Morning.                     |       |          |                        |   |    | 36            |             |   |                                 |      | 6 28                | 6 49     | 24   |    |
| 25           | TH          | Convers. St. Paul                                | 7       | 51                | 12 35                        | 19 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 4  | 35    | 11 4                             | 6 27                             | 53 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 0 52                         |       |          |                        |   |    | 37            |             |   |                                 |      | 7 12                | 7 36     | 25   |    |
| 26           | F           | Capella souths 8h 44m P.M.                       | 7       | 50                | 12 48                        | 19 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 37    | 11 23                            | 7 14                             | 58                             | 2 9                          |       |          |                        |   |    | 38            |             |   |                                 |      | 8 1                 | 8 30     | 26   |    |
| 27           | S           | Length of Night 15h 9m                           | 7       | 48                | 13 1 20                      | 4                            | 39 | 11 45 | 8 3 61 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 3 23                             |                                |                              |       |          |                        |   | 39 |               |             |   |                                 | 9 5  | 9 40                | 27       |      |    |
| 28           | S           | 4TH S. aft. EPIPH                                | 7       | 47                | 13 13                        | 20 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 40    | Afternoon                        | 8 53                             | 64                             | 4 36                         |       |          |                        |   |    | 40            |             |   |                                 |      | 10 17               | 10 56    | 28   |    |
| 29           | M           | Beta Tauri souths 8h 43m P.M.                    | 7       | 45                | 13 24                        | 20 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 4  | 41    | 0 54                             | 9 44                             | 65                             | 5 43                         |       |          |                        |   |    | 41            |             |   |                                 |      | 11 36               | No Tide. | 29   |    |
| 30           | Tu          | K. Chas. I. beh.                                 | 7       | 44                | 13 34                        | 20 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4  | 43    | 1 43                             | 10 36                            | 64 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>   | 6 39                         |       |          |                        |   |    | 42            |             |   |                                 |      | 0 11                | 0 43     | 30   |    |
| 31           | W           | Hilary Term ends                                 | 7       | 43                | 13 43                        | 21                           | 4  | 45    | 2 42                             | 11 26                            | 63                             | 7 23                         |       |          |                        |   |    | 43            |             |   |                                 |      | 1 8                 | 1 32     | 31   |    |



## NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

His spangling shower now Frost the wizard flings,  
Or borne on ether blue, on viewless wings,  
O'er the white pano his silvery foliage weaves,  
And gems with icicles the sheltering eaves.

INACTIVITY is a thing unknown in the natural world. When the whole of the vegetable creation seems reduced to a state of torpidity, those secret processes are gradually at work, by which the face of nature is to be again renewed—to life, vigour, and beauty. The rain which, in summer, cools and revives the plants, in winter takes the form of a soft wool, to cover vegetable life, and to guard it from the inclemency of frosts and winds, forming a safe protection to the tender herb, till the winter cold yields to the influence of milder weather; while the frost which is permitted to decorate the outside of the leaf and stem with its brilliant spangles of crystal, retards vegetation, without congealing, except in rare instances, the living juices.

As objects of microscopic investigation, both frost and snow are peculiarly interesting; and those who, through the medium of the microscope, have discovered that a drop of impure water is peopled with the tenants of a world hitherto, to them, invisible, will also find in the purest forms of these wonderful agents of nature, an inconceivable variety of beauty. In the drop of water are thousands of living creatures, which, though invisible to the naked eye, yet bear the same proportion to others still more minute that the gigantic whale does to the tiny shrimp it swallows in shoals; and many of the flakes of snow are of forms equally numerous and varied; for the most part, stars of six points, and ice, as transparent and perfect as any we see on a pond or river. They present an endless source of wonder, and reflect with exceeding splendour the rays of the sun; differing from hail and frost in being crystallised, which the latter are not.

Other employment for the microscope may be found, at this season, in the lichens and mosses. Some of these will suffer themselves to be frozen throughout, and become, from a mass of watery sponge, a block of ice, so solid that a

slice may be cut off no thicker than a biscuit, consisting entirely of the extremities of shoots.

Where the ground is not entirely hid from view, the cup-moss (*Cenomyces pyxidata*) or chalice-moss, as Gerard prettily calls it; and some of the fungi tribe, as *Polyporus squamosus*, *Xylaria hypoxylon*, spring up among the decayed vegetation, and one of them (*Tremella mesenterica*), which fastens its orange greasy-looking substance to old wood, is called by the country people "witches' butter." Regardless of winter's cold, midges fly about, and the six-cleft moth (*Phetorophorus hexadactylus*) may often be seen resting on our garden walls. Where the pool has yielded its icy crust, the water-scorpion (*Nepa cinerea*) "walks the waters;" and the larva of the water-beetle (*Dytiscus*) is active as a formidable enemy to aquatic insects, and even to young fish; exhausting their living juices with its enormous, sickle-shaped jaws. On coming to the surface to breathe, at the least alarm, these creatures, in accordance with their Greek name, dive down and rapidly scuttle away in the mud.

Few are the flowers that yet adorn the garland of the opening year, but foremost in indication of returning life, is that "lone flower hemmed in with snows, as pure as they," the snow-drop (*Galanthis nivalis*); while in sheltered hollows under the "russet drops," which already fringe the hazel (*Corylus avellana*), blossoms the sturdy winter furze (*Olea nanus*), a species lower in growth than the common gorse, and confining its "blaze of vegetable gold" to the autumnal and winter months. The flower of faithful love, with its "golden bosom fringed with snow"—"that constellated flower that never sets," the day's-eye of the poets (*Bellis perennis*)—blooms beneath its prickly shelter; and, above them both, wave the scarlet hips of the wild rose, the stems sometimes adorned with scarlet mossy-like tufts, the work of the gall-fly (*Cynips*), and productions, deemed by the old naturalists, under the name of Bedeguar, as very valuable medical remedies. In gardens, the spurge laurel (*Daphne laureola*) expands its blossoms, adding its mite as "token to the wintry earth, that beauty liveth still," and that even at this inclement season, nature occasionally has her languid faculties revived by a burst of welcome sunshine!

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

JANUARY.—THE FANCY BALL.



**CHRISTMAS** was over, the pantomimes on their last legs, and the new burlesque had reached its thirtieth night. I had assisted at so many dinners and dances, that turkeys and *tempêtes* had lost for me all their interest. My chimney-piece exhibited only a ghostlike series of invitations to bygone parties, and old editions of paid bills; and the future presented nothing more cheering to my speculations than those dreary two months which intervene—a sort of *saison de pénitence*—between the gas-light existence of Christmas and the sunshine of spring. At such a time, the following brief note, which reached me, Peregrine Singleton, one gloomy evening at the latter end of January, was not a little welcome, as, at all events, suggesting an idea, if not giving absolute promise, of a pleasure:—"Dear Mr. Singleton,—We are going to hold a "Court of Misrule" here-to-morrow evening, and upon your presenting yourself, not later than eight o'clock—of course in Court dress—you will be admitted.

"Very truly yours,                  "FANNY HARLAND."

A Fancy Ball, at twelve hours' notice—for such was evidently the intent of this quaint *annonce*—seemed, at the first blush of it, rather a hazardous speculation, but I had confidence in my friend; and, though Portia's Leaden Casket, which "rather threatened than did promise aught," was scarcely less eloquent, I determined upon the risk, and accepted the invitation.

The notice given afforded, as was probably intended, no time for devising anything very elaborate in the shape of the indispensable Court dress. All was evidently designed to be impromptu; and I could, therefore, only appeal to the lady portion of my home circle for such advice and assistance as their taste might suggest and the time admit of. Fortunately for us on such occasions, next to costuming themselves, there is nothing our lady friends enjoy more than presiding over the toilet of other people; and my appeal, therefore, was not made in vain. Shreds and patches of bygone silks and satins were routed out; and by eight o'clock the following evening, with the extraneous aid of six-pennyworth of crêpe hair and a dash of rouge, I found myself at my friend's house as good a Prince of Misrule as terry velvet, sarsnet ribbons, peacock's feathers, and borrowed jewellery could render me.

A low buzz from a circle of quaint, wholly unrecognisable characters assembled round the fire, as I made my appearance, a searching look of inquiry, and a burst of laughter when my identity was discovered, afforded an agreeable tribute to the success, so far, of my contribution to the general entertainment, and left me at liberty to pursue some investigations on my own account. A very short time sufficed to satisfy me that, for the success of the evening, there was nothing to fear. Portia's Leaden Casket had yielded a prize. The party, which I found had owed its origin to a box of costumes and old armour left in my friend's charge by an artist friend on a journey to Rome, consisted of some twenty persons, all sufficiently advanced in social wisdom to recognise the pleasure and profit of now and then playing the fool, and all sufficiently intimate not to mind doing so in one another's company. The Grays—four sons and three daughters—whose Charade Parties in Suffolk-terrace have obtained among their friends the enviable reputation—due, by the way, to few such entertainments—of amusing the audience as well as the actors; Percy Butler, known among his friends as O'Trigger Butler, by reason of his unrivaled performance of *Sir Lucius* in private theatricals; Frank Standish and his wife and sister, all musical, who, in addition to knowing how to play, possess the far rarer accomplishment of knowing when to play and when to leave off; with a house circle of six good and true souls, made up a party which dispelled all misgivings as to the result of the experiment. By the time we had finished tea, the ice of novelty had satisfactorily thawed, and the fun was fast approaching to boiling heat. The difficulties we had experienced in devising costumes on such short notice formed all in turn the subject of a laugh, or the material for a jest. The lion of England which surmounted the regal crown of the gorgeous King Cole Frank Standish had made of himself, had been borrowed, he was compelled to confess, from Johnny's Noah's Ark, to the great despair of its original owner; and the magnificent ruff—the admiration of all beholders—of his wife as Queen Elizabeth, had been robbed from a quire of her husband's brief paper. Laura Harland, who was of a somewhat mechanical genius, and an antiquarian tone of mind, had devised a head-dress from Strutt, which was a marvel to society how she ever got into it; and the unrivaled representative of Sir Lucius, with a handleless saucepan on his head, and a gig-umbrella over it, imparted a life-like resemblance to his rendering of *Nimroud* by a rich Cork brogue, which he insisted was the true ancient Hermesian, as the cuneiform inscriptions, when properly deciphered, would doubtless testify. How we laughed when Charles Harland's mustachios wouldn't keep on; and his brother's helmet (Tom Harland, as *Julius Caesar*), an ingenious contrivance of tinfoil, from a tea-cheat, nearly stifled him, because it wouldn't come off. How we spoke impromptu addresses, and paid forfeits when we failed; danced Gavottes under the superintendence of Charles Gray (appropriately attired as *Steady* in the "Quaker"), who had acquired that accomplishment at a dancing academy in the days of his youth; and impromised Corantos, under the guidance of the archaeologically-minded Laura.

Who is there can fix upon paper the hundred minute particles of enjoyment

which make the aggregate of a pleasant evening? The thing is not to be done. Suffice it, then, to say that the Court of Misrule proved a decided success. The entire absence of all pretence—for which, indeed, there had been no time—afforded no room for mortification; and where there was no effort, there could, of course, be no failure. Every one contributed a quota to the general enjoyment, and drew out his or her share from the common stock in exchange for it. All were gratified, and all unanimous in agreeing that the Court of Misrule, if the last of the season, was not to be the last of its race.

A year passed away, and the Court of Misrule was well nigh forgotten, when I received one evening the following note:—"Mrs. CHARLES HARLAND at Home, Wednesday, 26th January, Half past Nine. Uniforms and fancy dresses will be welcome."

A host of pleasant visions rose up before my eyes as I called to mind our former evening's entertainment, and hastened to despatch my acceptance of an invitation which promised, from old associations, so much similar enjoyment. Then came the important consideration of dress. With a three weeks' warning, any such impromptu arrangements as answered very well on the former occasion would be out of the question. Something new must be struck out. "Things unattempted yet." How many of Mr. Jeff's costume prints I turned over in the next fortnight without arriving at any satisfactory result, I am afraid to say. My private theatrical wardrobe was confined to a mask of eccentric conformation, a souvenir of the Bal del Opéra, at Paris; and a false beard and mustachios, a bequest from my friend Tom Woodcock on his quitting St. Thomas's for a quiet practice in Norfolk—good properties enough in their way, but obviously quite unequal to the occasion. My next-door neighbour in chambers would, I knew, be delighted to accommodate me with the uniform of the North Hants Yeomanry Company, in which he has for some years held a commission with honour to himself and advantage to his country; but then, apart from my being deficient in the black whiskers and martial deportment which enabled my friend to lend dignity to the trappings of that distinguished corps, he rode, I knew, twelve stone, and I and Romeo's apothecary were cast in twin moulds. My friend Tom Wye de Wake (of the Waste Paper Office), who was very cyclopædia of information on topics of this nature, was profuse in his offers of service. He had a complete suit of everyday costume, white on one side, and black on the other, which he assured me had earned him immortal renown at Jullien's last Bal Masqué. He was likewise the happy possessor of a green velvet polonaise, with hussars to match, which, in the early days of the polka, had been rather a hit at the Polish Ball of 1847. Neither of these suggestions aided me much. I doubted my capacity to give satisfaction, as two gentlemen at once, and I entertained a decided objection to hussars. I had almost reached the depths of despair, when one night, a few days only before the all-important evening, a brilliant idea flashed upon my mind, at a whist party—I would go as the Knave of Clubs.

An awning, a carpet from the road, and a crowd of eager lookers-on, confirm my impression as to the elaborate character of the whole affair. Various Italian Peasants, Débardeurs, Charles the Seconds, ladies of the last century, and gentlemen of no century all, fill the staircase as I enter—the whole reminding me of a picture I remember once seeing of the Elysian Fields, in which Edward the Black Prince, Benjamin Franklin, Homer, and George Fox, are engaged in familiar converse together. Our hostess, looking very queenly, and rather tired, as Marie Antoinette, is at the drawing-room door to receive us; and this lair, onerous enough under any circumstances, is in her case rendered painfully toilsome by the duty of addressing a compliment of as discriminating a character as may be to each of us as we make our appearance.

For the first hour or two all looked promising enough. There was no dancing, certainly; the room was too full for any such enjoyment, and the whole place was hot to suffocation; but the novelty of the scene, the bright lights, varied dresses, and lively music, coupled with that determination for enjoyment to which one generally winds oneself up on such occasions, carried one on very well for a time, and gratified curiosity supplied not ineffectually the place of actual enjoyment. At length, somehow, a horrible suggestion—dismissed at once, yet returning—flashed across my mind that the affair was—will it be credited?—actually dull. This idea, scouted at first as an impossibility, forced itself gradually into attention, until it stood out an actual fact, impossible to ignore.

Even the choice spirits of the former evening—good and true souls, and equal, it might have been inferred, to any emergency—were no exception to the general dullness, and seemed each to labour under his or her peculiar grief. Fanny Harland, who looked a very charming Zuleika, had her *memento mori* in her own familiar friend, who had presented herself a very much handsomer edition, in amber satin, of the same character. Laura the Archaeological was in even greater repair, for Madame Crinoline, in the manufacture of the outer tunic of the dress of Philipa of Hainault, as described by Froissart, had put on an edging of mink instead of miniver; thus destroying entirely, as she justly observed, the whole value of the costume. Frank Standish had devoted much anxious care making up for Titan's Charles V.; or, as his wife, not learned in Robertson, persisted in calling him Charles XII., and nobody recognised him, and even "the friend of the family" (that ubiquitous personage known to all party-goers), who had aspired to make a hit as Uncle Tom, and had blacked his face conscientiously for the purpose, was so weighed down by the dullness around, as to recall less that popular character than the slave, whose duty it was to whisper of the fallibility of pleasure at the Fancy Balls of the ancients. As for myself truth compels me to confess that I was no more fortunate than my neighbours. I was the very superlative of stupidity—Boddedom embodied! The Knave of Clubs—such are all human expectations—was a dead failure; and that was the truth. No two people were agreed as to what it meant, and the only point upon which society seemed unanimous was, that it was frightful.

Here was a climax to a three weeks' preparation! here was a result to all my researches in *re vestiaria*! to all my anticipations of renown! When I entered the house that evening, a sensation which should strike my male acquaintances pale with envy, a corner table at supper with the belle of the room, and every dance with her afterwards, had been among the most certain of my expectations; a couple of hours afterwards a cool seat among the cacti, and a gossip with the least pretensions of my lady friends, would have amply met my requirements; and the time at length arrived when all my desires were bounded by the arm-chair I had so rashly quit in my own snugger, "the unembarrassed brow," and a meerschaum of gebell. Luckily, these enjoyments were beyond the hand-malign of fortune, and one o'clock saw me in comfortable possession of them. The festive attire gave place to the old shooting-coat; and the aspirations for social successes, in which I had so unwarily indulged three hours before, were profitably exchanged for a good-humoured speculation into the causes of their failure.

The result to which I arrived, and which is heartily at the service of those of my readers who have not made the discovery for themselves, was, that Horace Walpole, that wise social philosopher, never spoke more truly than when, in writing to his friend Mann to order for him a birthday suit in Paris, he apologetically added, "But, after all, it is an excessively foolish thing to dress oneself out in fine clothes in cold blood."

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

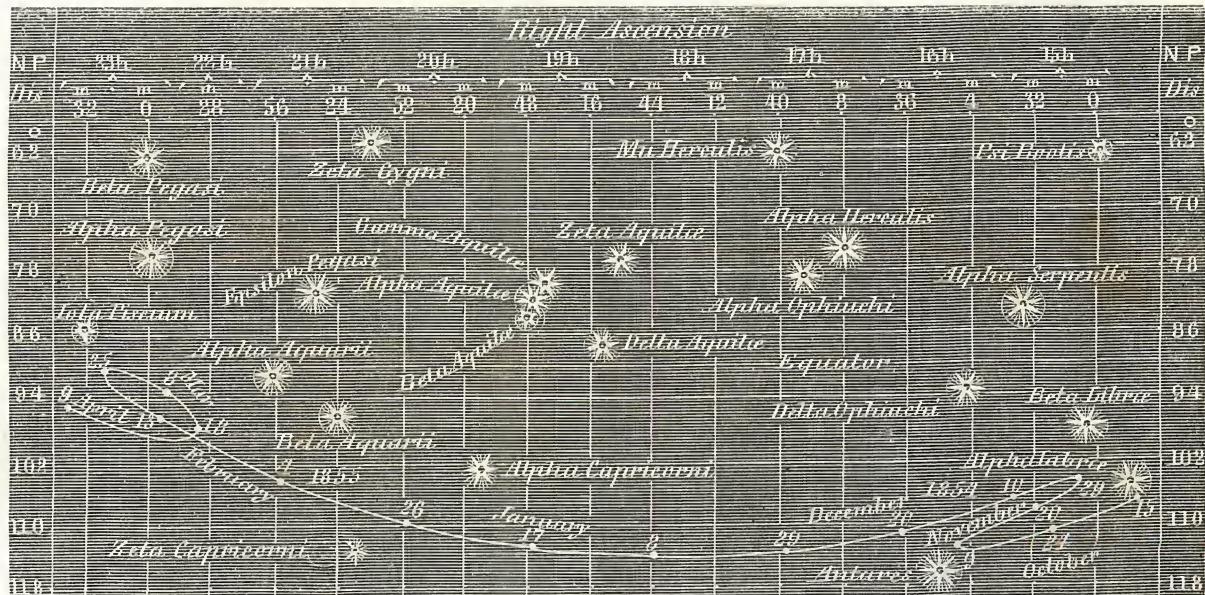
## JANUARY.

THE SUN is situated south of the Equator, or has south declination, and is in the sign Capricornus (the Goat) till the 20th, having been in that sign 29 days 10 hours and 38 minutes. On this day, at 1h. 37m. P.M., he enters the sign Aquarius (the Water-bearer). His distance from the Earth on the 1st is

93,404,000 miles, increasing to 93,619,000 by the last day. He sets on the 1st at about 30° S. of the S.W. by W. point of the horizon; on the 16th, at the S.W. by W.; and at the end of the month, midway between the W.S.W. and the S.W. by W. points of the horizon.

The Moon, on the 1st, is in the constellation Taurus; on the 2nd, in Gemini; on the 4th, in Cancer; on the 6th, in Leo; on the 8th, in Virgo; in which con-

## THE PATH OF MERCURY FROM OCTOBER 15, 1854, TO APRIL 9, 1855.



Scale, 21 degrees to one inch

stellation she remains till the 12th, when she enters Libra; on the 14th, she enters Scorpio, and passes into Ophiuchus on the same day. On the 15th she is in Sagittarius; on the 18th, in Capricornus; on the 20th, in Aquarius; on the 21st, in Pisces; from the 22nd to the 24th, in Cetus and Pisces; on the 24th, she passes into Aries; on the 26th, into Taurus; on the 29th, into Gemini; and on the 31st, into Cancer. She is at her extreme north declination about midnight on the 2nd; crosses the Equator on the 10th; is at her extreme south declination about midnight on the 16th; crosses the Equator a second time on the 22nd, and reaches her extreme north declination a second time this month on the 30th. She is about 20° east of Aldebaran, and near Beta Tauri on the 1st; is near Castor and Pollux on the 3rd; near Regulus on the morning of the 7th; about 9° north of Spica Virginis on the 11th; Antares on the 14th and 15th; is near Mercury and Venus on the 18th; Mars on the 19th; south of the Pleiades on the 26th; north of Aldebaran and near Saturn on the 27th; south of Beta Tauri on the 28th; and near Castor and Pollux on the 30th and 31st. On the morning of the 13th, at 3h. 50m., and at 3h. 58m. A.M., the stars 8 Libra and Alpha Libra will just touch the border of the Moon, as seen from London; but at places south of London both stars will be occulted by the Moon.

MERCURY is in the constellation Sagittarius till the 19th, and in Capricornus to the end of the month. He rises on the 1st at 7h. 26m. A.M., being 42 minutes before the Sun; on the 14th at the same time as the Sun, and on the last day, 30 minutes before him. He sets on the 1st, at 58 minutes before the Sun; at the same time on the 23rd; and 36 minutes after him on the last day. He is not favourably situated for observation during the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; is in Aphelion on the 5th, near the Moon on the 18th, in

superior conjunction with the Sun on the 20th, and near Jupiter on the 25th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the annexed diagram.

VENUS is in the constellation Sagittarius till the 11th, and in Capricornus till the end of the month. She sets on the 1st at 4h. 17m. P.M., being 17m. after the Sun; on the 11th, at 4h. 43m., being 32m. after him; on the 21st, at 5h. 13m., being 46m. after him; and, on the last day, at 5h. 45m. P.M., being 1 hour after the Sun. She sets near the S.W. by W. point of the horizon about the beginning, and near the W.S.W. about the end, of the month. She is moving eastward among the stars; is in Aphelion on the 12th, is about 15° from Alpha Capricorni on the 15th, and near Jupiter and the Moon on the 18th. For her path in the heavens and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in March.

MARS is in the constellation Capricornus till the 29th, and in Aquarius to the end of the month. He sets on the 1st, at 5h. 49m. P.M.; on the 11th, at 5h. 55m.; on the 21st, at 6h.; and, on the last day, at 6h. 7m., P.M., near the S.W. by W. point of the horizon at the beginning of the month, and the W.S.W. at the end of the month. He souths at an altitude of 17° on the 1st; of 21° on the 15th; and of 24° on the 31st. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near Jupiter on the 2nd, the Moon on the 19th, and in Perihelion on the 25th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagrams in April. This planet during the whole of this year is small, and its telescopic appearance differs but little from a circle.

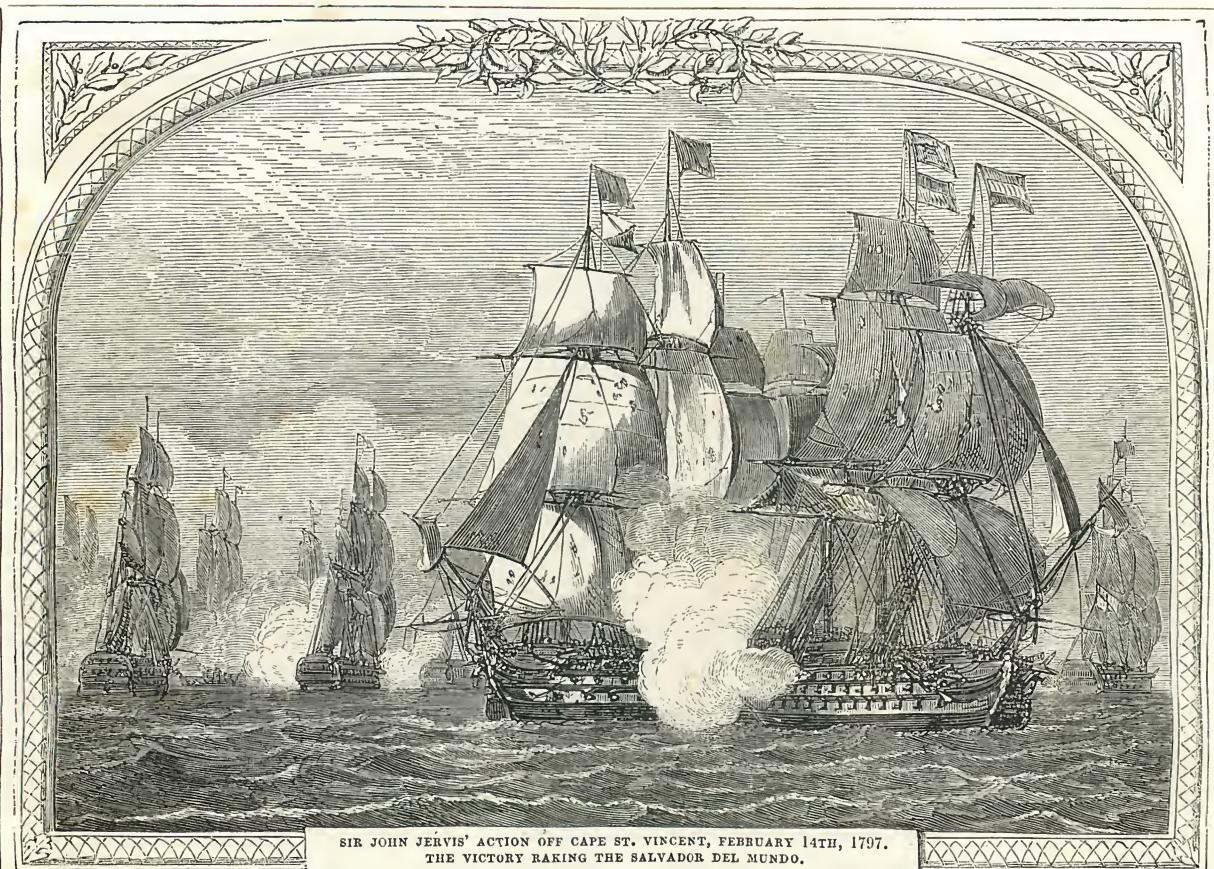
(Continued on page 52.)

| Days of the Month. | TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN. |            |          |            |          |            | JUPITER'S SATELLITES. |            |          |            |          |            | OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON. |            |           |              |   |          |                            |          |                                 |          |
|--------------------|---|------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|-----------------------|------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|------------------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------|---|----------|----------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|----------|
|                    | Mercury.  |            | Venus.   |            | Mars.    |            | Jupiter.              |            | Saturn.  |            | Uranus.  |            | Names of the Stars                 |            | Magnitude |              | Times of disappearance & re-appearance of the Star. |          | At which limb of the Moon. |          | Between what Latitudes visible. |          |
|                    | Morning.  | Afternoon. | Morning. | Afternoon. | Morning. | Afternoon. | Morning.              | Afternoon. | Morning. | Afternoon. | Morning. | Afternoon. | Morning.                           | Afternoon. | Morning.  | Afternoon.   | D. H. M.  | D. H. M. | D. H. M.                   | D. H. M. | D. H. M.                        | D. H. M. |
| 1                  | 11 14   | 0 24       | 1 33     | 1 39       | 9 52     | 7 50       |                       |            |          |            |          |            | 139 Tauri ....                     | 5          |           |              | 2 2 57 A.M.   | Dark     | 12° N. &                   |          |                                 |          |
| 6                  | 11 29   | 0 31       | 1 35     | 1 24       | 9 31     | 7 39       |                       |            |          |            |          |            | Lambda Cancri                      | 6          |           |              | 2 4 3 A.M.  | Bright   | 85° N.                     |          |                                 |          |
| 11                 | 11 44   | 0 38       | 1 31     | 1 9        | 9 10     | 7 19       |                       |            |          |            |          |            | Eta Leonis                         | 3          |           |              | 4 5 48 P.M.   | Bright   | 2° S. &                    |          |                                 |          |
| 16                 | 11 59   | 0 45       | 1 27     | 0 54       | 8 49     | 6 59       |                       |            |          |            |          |            | Sigma Arietis ..                   | 6          |           |              | 4 6 7 P.M.  | Dark     | 70° N.                     |          |                                 |          |
| 21                 | Afternoon   | 0 51       | 1 23     | 0 40       | 8 29     | 6 39       |                       |            |          |            |          |            |                                    |            |           | 6 10 14 P.M. | Bright  | 56° N. & |                            |          |                                 |          |
| 26                 | 0 31  | 0 57       | 1 19     | 0 25       | 8 8      | 6 20       |                       |            |          |            |          |            |                                    |            |           | 6 11 1 P.M.  | Dark  | 23° S.   |                            |          |                                 |          |
| 31                 | 0 47  | 1 2        | 1 15     | 0 10       | 7 48     | 6 0        |                       |            |          |            |          |            |                                    |            |           | 25 4 36 P.M. | Dark  | North of |                            |          |                                 |          |
|                    |   |            |          |            |          |            |                       |            |          |            |          |            |                                    |            |           | 25 5 33 P.M. | Bright  | 10° N.   |                            |          |                                 |          |

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON,  
And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee)  
or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth  
in each Lunation.

| Days of the Month. | RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS AT MEAN NOON. |    |                       |      |                  |    | MERCURY.              |          | VENUS.           |          | MARS.                 |          | JUPITER.         |         | SATURN.               |         | URANUS.          |         |       |      |       |    |
|--------------------|---|----|-----------------------|------|------------------|----|-----------------------|----------|------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|------------------|---------|-------|------|-------|----|
|                    | Right Ascension.  |    | North Polar Distance. |      | Right Ascension. |    | North Polar Distance. |          | Right Ascension. |          | North Polar Distance. |          | Right Ascension. |         | North Polar Distance. |         | Right Ascension. |         |       |      |       |    |
| D. H. M.           |   |    |                       |      |                  |    |                       |          |                  |          |                       |          |                  |         |                       |         |                  |         |       |      |       |    |
| FULL MOON .. .     | 3   | 8  | 19                    | A.M. | 6                | 18 | 57                    | 114° 12' | 19h. 6m          | 113° 27' | 20h. 20m              | 110° 43' | 20h. 22m         | 110° 1' | 4h. 36m               | 69° 43' | 2h. 42m          | 74° 38' |       |      |       |    |
| LAST QUARTER .. .  | ..  | 11 | 0                     | 13   | P.M.             | 11 | 19                    | 6        | 114              | 14       | 20                    | 0        | 111              | 46      | 108                   | 19      | 45               | 4 34    | 69 44 | 2 42 | 74 39 |    |
| NEW MOON .. .      | ..  | 18 | 8                     | 37   | A.M.             | 16 | 19                    | 41       | 113              | 22       | 20                    | 27       | 110              | 30      | 21                    | 9       | 107              | 35      | 20    | 36   | 108   | 31 |
| FIRST QUARTER .. . | ..  | 25 | 1                     | 39   | A.M.             | 21 | 20                    | 17       | 111              | 53       | 20                    | 52       | 109              | 0       | 21                    | 25      | 106              | 23      | 20    | 41   | 108   | 54 |
| APOGEE .. .        | ..  | 5  | 11                    | 0    | A.M.             | 26 | 20                    | 52       | 109              | 44       | 21                    | 18       | 107              | 15      | 21                    | 40      | 105              | 6       | 20    | 46   | 108   | 36 |
| PERIGEE .. .       | ..  | 18 | 2                     | 0    | P.M.             | 31 | 21                    | 27       | 106              | 55       | 21                    | 43       | 105              | 19      | 21                    | 55      | 103              | 46      | 20    | 51   | 108   | 17 |

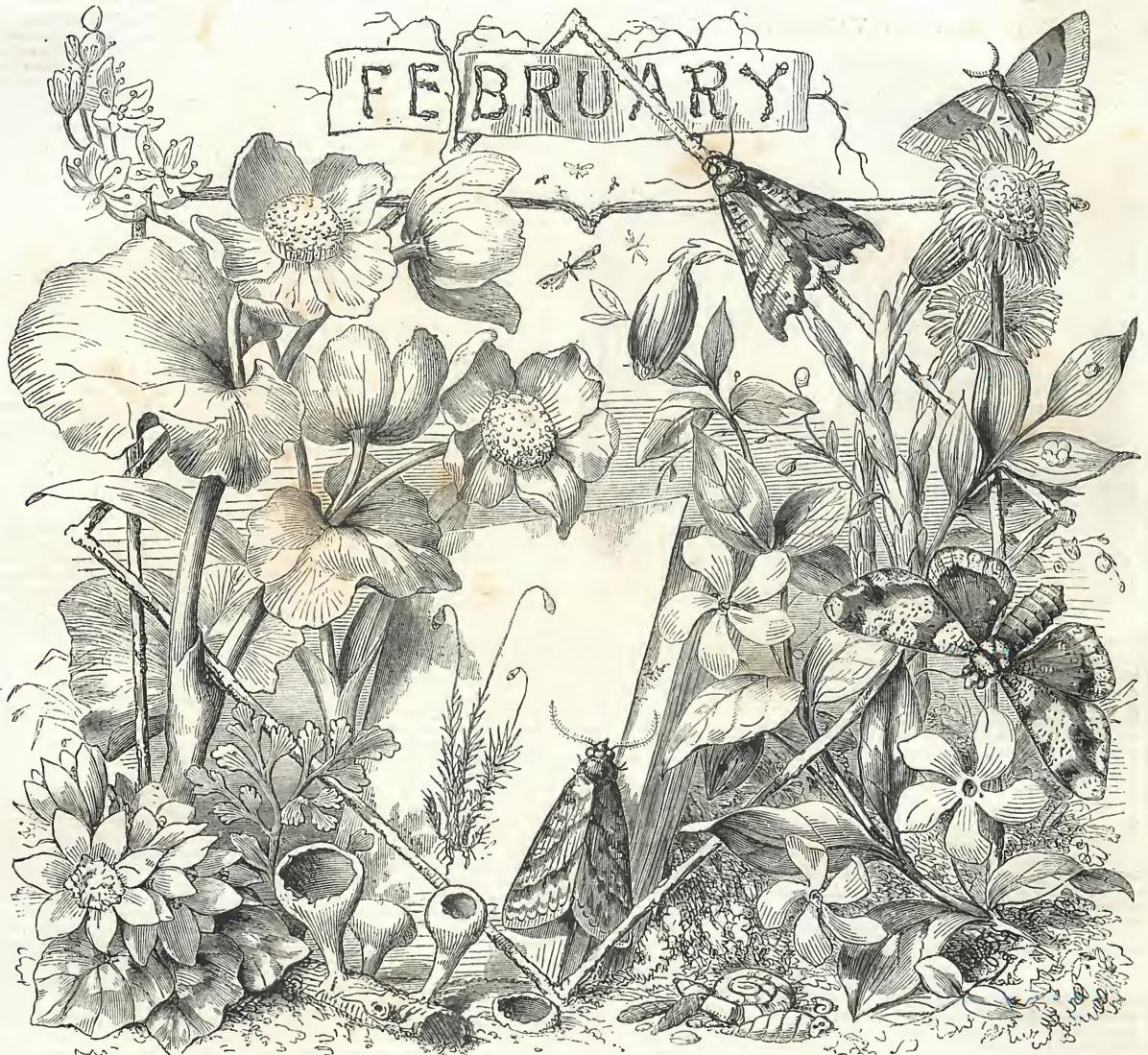
FEBRUARY.



SIR JOHN JERVIS' ACTION OFF CAPE ST. VINCENT, FEBRUARY 14TH, 1797.  
THE VICTORY RAKING THE SALVADOR DEL MUNDO.

| Day of Month | Day of Week | SUN.                        |    |    |    |      |                      |        |    |           |      |                      |                  | MOON.            |           |      |         |    |    |          |   |   |   |   |    | HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE. |   | Day of the Year |    |    |    |         |           |  |
|--------------|-------------|-----------------------------|----|----|----|------|----------------------|--------|----|-----------|------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|------|---------|----|----|----------|---|---|---|---|----|------------------------------|---|-----------------|----|----|----|---------|-----------|--|
|              |             | SOUTHS.                     |    |    |    |      |                      | SETS.  |    |           |      |                      |                  | SOUTHS.          |           |      |         |    |    | SETS.    |   |   |   |   |    | Before Sunrise.              |   |                 |    |    |    | Morning | Afternoon |  |
|              |             | Rises.                      | M. | M. | s. | Deg. | Height above horizon | Rises. | M. | M.        | Deg. | Height above horizon | Morning          | M.               | M.        | Deg. | Morning | M. | M. | O'Clock. | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 12                           | 4 | 6               | 8  | 10 | 12 |         |           |  |
| 1            | Th          | Ph. & Par. sh. ends         | 7  | 41 | 13 | 51   | 21 $\frac{1}{4}$     | 4      | 47 | 3         | 50   | 7                    | 57               | 14               | ●         |      |         |    |    |          |   |   |   |   |    |                              |   |                 |    |    | 32 |         |           |  |
| 2            | F           | Purif. Cand. day            | 7  | 40 | 13 | 59   | 21 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 4      | 49 | 5         | 1    | 0                    | 14               | 60 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 8         | 22   |         |    |    |          |   |   |   |   |    |                              |   |                 |    |    |    | 33      |           |  |
| 3            | S           | Blaise                      | 7  | 38 | 14 | 6    | 21 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 4      | 50 | 6         | 11   | 0                    | 59               | 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 8         | 41   | 16      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | ■  | ■  | 34      |           |  |
| 4            | S           | SEPTUAGESIMA S.             | 7  | 36 | 14 | 12   | 22 $\frac{1}{4}$     | 4      | 52 | 7         | 22   | 1                    | 42               | 51 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 8         | 56   | 17      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | ■  | ■  | 35      |           |  |
| 5            | M           | Agatha                      | 7  | 34 | 14 | 17   | 22 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 4      | 54 | 8         | 33   | 2                    | 24               | 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 9         | 10   | 18      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | ■  | ■  | 36      |           |  |
| 6            | TU          | Length of day 9h 21m        | 7  | 32 | 14 | 21   | 22 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 4      | 56 | 9         | 44   | 3                    | 541              | 9                | 22        | 19   | ■       | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | ■  | 37 |         |           |  |
| 7            | W           | Pleiades south 6h 30m r.m.  | 7  | 30 | 14 | 25   | 23                   | 4      | 57 | 10        | 56   | 3                    | 46               | 35 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 9         | 35   | 20      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | ■  | ■  | 38      |           |  |
| 8            | Th          | Half-Quarter Day            | 7  | 29 | 14 | 28   | 23 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 4      | 59 | Morning.  | 4    | 28                   | 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 9                | 47        | 21   | ■       | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | ■  | 39 |         |           |  |
| 9            | F           | Pollux south 10h 19m r.m.   | 7  | 27 | 14 | 30   | 23 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 5      | 0  | 0         | 12   | 5                    | 13               | 23 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 10        | 0    | 22      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | ■  | 40 |         |           |  |
| 10           | S           | Qu. Vict. m. 1840           | 7  | 25 | 14 | 31   | 24                   | 5      | 2  | 1         | 31   | 6                    | 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 10               | 21        | 23   | ■       | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | 21 |    |         |           |  |
| 11           | S           | SEXAGESIMA S.               | 7  | 24 | 14 | 31   | 24 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 5      | 4  | 2         | 53   | 6                    | 54               | 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 10        | 45   | 24      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | ■  | 42 |         |           |  |
| 12           | M           | Night decreased 1h 59m      | 7  | 22 | 14 | 31   | 24 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 5      | 6  | 4         | 16   | 7                    | 53               | 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 11        | 26   | 25      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | ■  | 43 |         |           |  |
| 13           | TU          | Capella souths 7h 33m r.m.  | 7  | 20 | 14 | 30   | 25                   | 5      | 8  | 5         | 30   | 8                    | 56               | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ | Afternoon | 26   | ■       | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | ■  | 44 |         |           |  |
| 14           | W           | St. Val. O. C. D.           | 7  | 18 | 14 | 28   | 25 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 5      | 10 | 6         | 31   | 10                   | 1                | 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 1         | 37   | 27      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | ■  | 45 |         |           |  |
| 15           | TH          | Sirius souths Sh 58m r.m.   | 7  | 16 | 14 | 26   | 25 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 5      | 12 | 7         | 13   | 11                   | 5                | 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 3         | 7    | 28      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | ■  | 46 |         |           |  |
| 16           | F           | Twilight ends 7h 6m         | 7  | 14 | 14 | 22   | 26                   | 5      | 14 | 7         | 45   | Afternoon            | 19 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 4                | 42        | 29   | ○       | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | 47 |    |         |           |  |
| 17           | S           | Rigel souths 7h 20m r.m.    | 7  | 12 | 14 | 18   | 26 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 5      | 16 | 8         | 4    | 1                    | 2                | 25 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 6         | 15   | 30      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | ■  | 48 |         |           |  |
| 18           | S           | QUIN. or SHROVE             | 7  | 10 | 14 | 14   | 26 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 5      | 18 | 8         | 22   | 1                    | 55               | 32               | 7         | 44   | 31      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | 49 |    |         |           |  |
| 19           | M           | Day increased [SUN] 2h 20m  | 7  | 9  | 14 | 8    | 27 $\frac{1}{5}$     | 5      | 20 | 8         | 36   | 2                    | 45               | 36 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 9         | 9    | 32      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | 50 |    |         |           |  |
| 20           | TR          | SHROVE T. div. noon         | 7  | 7  | 14 | 2    | 27 $\frac{2}{5}$     | 5      | 21 | 8         | 52   | 3                    | 32               | 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 10        | 31   | 33      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | 51 |    |         |           |  |
| 21           | W           | ASH-WEDNESDAY               | 7  | 5  | 13 | 56   | 27 $\frac{3}{5}$     | 5      | 23 | 9         | 7    | 4                    | 20               | 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 11        | 52   | 34      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | 52 |    |         |           |  |
| 22           | TH          | Regulus souths 11h 51m r.m. | 7  | 3  | 13 | 48   | 28 $\frac{1}{5}$     | 5      | 25 | 9         | 25   | 5                    | 8                | 56 $\frac{3}{4}$ | Morning.  | 35   | ■       | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | 53 |    |         |           |  |
| 23           | F           | Castor souths 9h 14m r.m.   | 7  | 1  | 13 | 40   | 28 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 5      | 27 | 9         | 47   | 5                    | 58               | 60 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 1         | 11   | 36      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | 54 |    |         |           |  |
| 24           | S           | St. Matthias.               | 6  | 59 | 13 | 32   | 29                   | 5      | 29 | 10        | 13   | 6                    | 48               | 63 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 2         | 27   | 37      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | 55 |    |         |           |  |
| 25           | S           | 1ST S. IN Lent              | 6  | 56 | 13 | 22   | 29 $\frac{1}{4}$     | 5      | 30 | 10        | 49   | 7                    | 40               | 65               | 3         | 27   | 38      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | 56 |    |         |           |  |
| 26           | M           | Day breaks 5h 3m            | 6  | 54 | 13 | 12   | 29 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 5      | 32 | 11        | 35   | 8                    | 31               | 65 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 4         | 36   | 39      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | 57 |    |         |           |  |
| 27           | TU          | Procyon souths 9h 3m r.m.   | 6  | 52 | 13 | 2    | 30                   | 5      | 34 | Afternoon | 9    | 22                   | 64               | 5                | 23        | 40   | ■       | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | 58 |    |    |         |           |  |
| 28           | W           | Ember Week                  | 6  | 50 | 12 | 51   | 30 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 5      | 36 | 1         | 38   | 10                   | 10               | 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 6         | 2    | 41      | ■  | ■  | ■        | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■  | ■                            | ■ | ■               | ■  | 59 |    |         |           |  |

|                               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| High-water at Greenwich, .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . |
| Gravesend .. .                | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . |
| Chatham and Sheerness .. .    | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . |
| Margate .. .                  | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . |
| Ramsgate .. .                 | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . | .. . |



NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

With anxious heart the farmer looks around,  
And marks the first green blade that breaks the ground.  
In fancy sees his trembling oats uprun,  
His tufted barley, yellow with the sun.

The varying weather of February, destructive as it is to some of the firstlings of the year, as they venture forth prematurely from their winter sleep, is not sufficient to check the gradual tokens of returning animation throughout the hardy vegetable world. The last edging of snow on the skirts of Winter's cold mantle have now melted;

And the dark pine wood's boughs are seen  
Fringed tenderly with living green.

A "tender green" also peeps forth from the straggling branches of the hedge-row elder;

And hazel catkins, and the bursting buds:  
Of the fresh willow, whisper Spring is coming.

Under southern hedge-rows the small periwinkles (*Vinca minor*), with their starry blue flowers, and shining myrtle-like leaves, garland the bushes; while by the cold river side—

Where the coarse rushes to the sweeping breeze  
Sing forth their ancient melodies—

flowers the bold marsh marigold (*Calla palustris*), its sturdy stem, like theirs, unbroken by the rude winds.

Unharnessed by leaves, the coltsfoot (*Tussilago*) sends forth its pale yellow blossoms, almost a solitary instance of a wild flower which appears long before its leaves are unfolded; and another of "Flora's vagaries," butcher's broom (*Ruscus aculeatus*); and an evergreen shrub, bears its flowers upon the leaves, eventually to become brilliant balls of coral. That "hedge-bank beauty," lesser celandine (*Picaria ranunculoides*), looks out upon the sun, at nine o'clock, carefully folding up between two and three; and the two-leaved squill (*Scilla bifida*), of more cultivated ground, sometimes opens its pale blue blossoms.

Amongst the first indications of returning animation in the insect world, is one of the frailest, the moth, who now emerges from a chrysalis, which, without

harm to the inmate, has perhaps been brittle as glass in the frost of winter. The early moth (*Cheimotabia brumata*); the herald moth (*Calyptera libatrix*); the oak beauty (*Biston prodrornarius*); the pale brindled beauty (*Phigalia pilosaria*)—

As moved with one desire,  
Put on, to welcome Spring, their best attire.

The tiny chrysalis-shaped snails (*Clausilia helix*), who chiefly find a home in mosses, at the foot of trees, feel, too, the wakening influence of the season; and in this, and the following month, both mosses and lichens are in their fullest verdure. Many of them are advanced even to fructification, being destined, as it would appear, to keep up the green tints of Nature, when most other vegetation is slumbering; and to protect the roots of larger plants from vicissitudes of cold, as well as of heat, and from too much moisture, as well as dryness. Like the air plants of India, they themselves seem to derive their chief nourishment from the moist air, a circumstance which may account for their growing upon trees, walls, and bare rocks, where there is little if any soil to support vegetation.

In this month may be found one of the prettiest of the fungi tribe, the Carmine Peziza (*Peziza Coccinea*); in its early stage presenting but an unprepossessing appearance; but when the white club-shaped columns open, an intensely bright crimson cup appears, which finally expands into a spreading bowl as large over as a crown piece. "When in this state, if they are touched while the sun is shining warmly, they will sometimes send up a fine jet of smoke—at least so it is in appearance—but so rapid is this process, that before one has had time to discover from what part of the surface the puff proceeds, it has vanished, and not a pore as large even as the point of a needle can be detected. The particles of which this apparent smoke is composed are undoubtedly seeds; but how infinitely minute, and yet how incalculably numerous must they be, that they should vanish from the sight more rapidly than smoke, and yet exist in such numbers as to be visible."

Thus Nature works as if to mock at Art,  
And in defiance of her rival power,  
By these fortuitous and random strokes,  
Performing such imitable feats,  
As she, with all her rules, can never reach.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

FEBRUARY.—ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.



ALTHOUGH we live at a very enlightened period, and are disposed to regard rather slightly the wisdom of our ancestors, there still exist, happily, some few amongst us, who, despite of progress and the march of intellect, are content to tolerate ancient observances. For myself, I honestly admit that I belong to the old school. I confess a memory very tenacious of holidays; I am a very chronicler of birthdays, and anniversaries generally; for Saints' days, great and small, I have a kindness, if not a veneration—from the Fast of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr, to the Feast of St. Valentine, the merriest, if not the wisest, saint in the calendar. For the latter I seem to have a peculiar sympathy, since I can trace back my recollections of it to somewhere about my sixth year—now, alas! almost forty years ago.

I well remember the unwelcome reception which greeted me on that eventful 13th of February, as, at my ordinary bed-time, I opened the door of the nursery, and found the servants assembled in full conclave, with the sole exception of the footman, who was, I suspect, mounting guard over the occupants of the dining-room. "And who sent you up so early, Miss?" demanded she, who in the nursery held special dominion; with a clutch of the shoulder, half-slap, half-shake, ostensibly directed to the improvement of my carriage. Before I could reply, the good-natured cook, whose diplomacy was of a more suave character, came to the rescue, promising me tea and toast if I would afterwards go quietly to bed, as they were about to write letters to their friends, and could not possibly be interrupted. To this compromise I was fain to accede, and even now I recollect the incidents which seasoned this meal; the whirl of the tea-cups and the fortunes discovered in the grounds; the "fair young man" promised to the housemaid, and the "dark sailor" who fell to the lot of the cook. Unluckily, my open mouth and staring eyes revealed an interest too intense in these mystic rites; and I was hurried off to bed, whence I could hear a great deal of laughing, talking, scratching of pens, and a lavish tearing up of paper. Certain poetical effusions (whether original, or copied from the "Polite Letter-Writer," my literary experience did not enable me to determine) were at length read aloud, and met with unbounded applause; copies, however, were refused, which was pronounced rather unhandsome between friends "as might be trusted." The kindly goodwill to their correspondents, evinced in the majority of these missives, was not, I regret to say, universal. I have a distinct impression that a communication of an offensive character, was addressed to a nameless somebody, who ranked in the estimation of society, as "a stuck-up Miss;" and that a debate ensued, whether a green paper pair of gloves should be enclosed to her, as indicating her forsaken condition, or a yellow pair, befockening jealousy. Something I heard about despatching Joe to the post-office the next morning to intercept the letters before they were put into the letter-bag (which was always opened by the head of the household); and then I fell asleep.

I have not forgotten the arch look of my father when the bag was brought in at breakfast the next day. "Plenty of letters this morning—eh, Pursell!" said he, with a knowing look at the servant, as he opened it. "Why should there be more letters than usual?" inquired my simple-minded mother. "Only two I declare," he continued, "and both for myself; not a Valentine for any one, not even for you, my pretty pet; but, never mind, lovers and valentines will come in plenty by-and-by." "I wonder, Charles," said my mother reprovingly, "that you can talk such nonsense to the child;" then, turning to the servant, she observed, that it gave her pleasure to find no member of her household encouraged such idle and unprofitable correspondence. My father laughed again. Pursell, I think, tried to look sympathetic and respectful with his mistress, and knowing with his master; but, finding the combination a difficult one, muttered something about the door bell; and quitted the room. The good-humour which reigned in the nursery that evening was quite exuberant, and I was pronounced the best of children.

My next recollection of this eventful anniversary was at that well-known establishment for young ladies, Acacia House, Kensington—kept at that time by the late Miss Frigid—now the Montpelier Collegiate Institution for Ladies, under the Lady Principality of Madame Surville. Although one of the junior pupils, my former experience enabled me to interpret the signs of the times: the eager consultations of the elder girls, and their visible impatience of juvenile society; the vigilant watchfulness of their teachers, and the stately pre-occupied air of Miss Frigid herself, as the day approached, were none of them mysteries to me. It was an ordinance of the presiding deity, that the equilibrium of our minds

should not be disturbed by the distribution of letters until the duties of the morning had been accomplished. Our digestive faculties, however, were less tenderly protected, for the half hour before dinner was the period set apart for the enjoyment of our correspondence. On St. Valentine's Day, the young ladies had elicited from a friendly domestic the welcome fact, that "Missis had a heap of letters for them," and they awaited, with ill-dissembled impatience, the moment at which they usually assembled around Miss Frigid's table, to receive their treasures. The deportment of that lady was unusually bland, as she announced her regret that she had no letters for the young ladies. She ought, perhaps, to add, she continued, that certain communications had reached Acacia House, but of such a character that she had felt in committing them at once to the flames, she only anticipated the desire of the ladies to whom they were addressed. She felt gratification, too, in sparing them the feeling of indignation which such impertinences were calculated to awaken in well-regulated minds. With a look of bland decision, Miss Frigid swept out of the room, leaving behind her quite as many indignant emotions as from the aforesaid well-regulated minds she could have expected, though whether directed precisely in the quarter she desired, may be a matter of doubt. Kate Aquillette (only daughter of Colonel Aquillette, of Woolwich) went into real hysterics of disappointment, having intended to patronise society very largely on the strength of the numerous tributes to her charms, which she had reason to expect would pour in from a coterie of young gentlemen—they engaged in the service of their country, and the study of military strategy in garrison.

Of my own personal experiences of St. Valentine's Day, I shall say but little. I received, perhaps, somewhat less than the average number of letters, of rather above the average style; and here I may observe, *en passant*, that it was remarkable how much the general character of these effusions harmonized with that of the popular literature of the day. During the time of the ballad poetry of Sir Walter Scott, they were usually of a genial and chivalrous cast; but when the fierce fashion of Byron set in, nothing short of blackness and blight could do justice to the intensity of passion of these Conrads and Laras of modern times. I could almost fancy, that in my early youth the shadow of Old Maidism must have hung over me, for one long extract from Hayley's "Triumphs of Temper" hailed me as a sort of *Serena rediviva*; and once a full page from Miss Bowdler's "Love of Solitude" complimented me upon the *penserosa* character of my tastes and habits. None of these addresses, however complimentary, terminated in any practical result; and it is strange that, in the whole range of my Valentine experiences, I have only met with two cases that ever did so. In the one instance, a gentleman—who, though past the first flush of youth, and seriously interested in the lady, could not summon courage to address her *viva voce*—tendered his homage for five successive years, in the shape of a lock of hair; the white threads in which, increasing in number after every interval, seemed gracefully suggestive of the danger of delay on her part. A dark tress at length required the silent but constant lover, and for many a year those two fates have been united. In the second instance, the interference of St. Valentine was rather incidental than direct; but at any rate it was equally successful.

Ladies of all ages and conditions are accused of entertaining a particular penchant for the clergy, and in my own person I am most ready to admit the truth of the impeachment; for surely, if the Church is our venerable mother, to cherish her sons but a sisterly duty. Similar views being entertained by the other members of my family, if happened that the young Incumbent of our village became, soon after his arrival there, a more frequent guest at the Hall than the courtesies of country visiting rendered absolutely necessary. Although the High Church party considered him too liberal to Dissenters, and the Low Church found it impossible to profit fully by sermons preached in a surplice, Mr. Hargreaves was acknowledged by all to be an excellent young man, who did his duty thoroughly, but might be richer with advantage. (Blackwell-cum-Titbridge is a perpetual curacy only, rated in the clergy list at £193 16s. 5d. per annum). The beneficial influences of his society soon evinced themselves in the increased interest taken by my second niece in the ancient matrons, and other objects of charity which the village afforded; and when the young Divine avowed one evening, with unconscious enthusiasm, that he considered Mary the sweetest name in the calendar, I began, though no match-maker, occasionally to ponder the question, whether good principles, good talents, and good lineage, might not worthily match with a good fortune, even though a pretty girl were attached to it. The practical decision of this point, however, rested not with me, and my speculations respecting it seemed doubly vain and profitless, when the visits of our pastor waxed gradually fewer and shorter. I noticed in our chance encounters that he looked as though keeping an anticipatory Lent, and also that Mary had become subject to headaches and ennui. Not liking to see grave faces where I had been accustomed to meet glad ones, I resolved, after some hesitation, to call at the parsonage, and see what medicaments I could offer for the mind or suggest for the body of its occupant. Our friend's staid housekeeper ushered me into the study, promising to fetch her master, who was then engaged in a colloquy respecting the grate for the vestry. I trotted to the table to take up a book, when lo! there lay spread out before me, pure and spotless, three of Mr. De la Rue's most elaborate lace-bordered Valentines. For the first time in my life, I was horror-struck at the sight; for what would have called forth only a sympathetic smile in other young men, seemed undignified and unbecoming in a clergyman. I thought, too, of poor Mary, and sighed as I did so; in fact, when the culprit stood before me, I could hardly collect myself sufficiently to respond to his courtesies. He in his turn became surprised, and followed the direction of my eyes, still fixed on the evidences of his guilt. He took them up, and a faint colour and a fainter smile were perceptible on his countenance, as he inquired if I did not think them beautiful, and added, that he hoped they would give pleasure to her for whom they were intended—one, little susceptible of enjoyments, but well worthy of all her friends could afford her. He read my surprise in my looks, and then forth came the mystery. He had an only sister, at once the care and object of his life. A fearful fever had visited her some years before, which, whilst sparing her life, and many of her personal attractions, had reduced her mental powers to the simplicity of childhood. Her memory, he added, by one of those strange instincts which science has failed to elucidate, whilst blank to almost all beside, was still alive to expressions of admiration and the pleasures of a first Valentine. "So, year by year," he continued, "I strive to keep alive this remembrance, and add a drop of honey to the tasteless cup of life."

His confidences did not end here. His love; the doubts and misgiving of success, which had almost overwhelmed him; the hopes he had scarcely dared to indulge, all were laid bare before me. I bade him—how could I do otherwise?—come up to the Hall and plead his own cause, in his own words. The sequel may easily be guessed. If he had been charming before, the episode of the afternoon rendered him irresistible. My good brother was vanquished by a hint that Mary's headaches might become chronic; and, with a mention of the merry wedding we had on the 14th of February last, I conclude these Reminiscences of St. Valentine's Day.

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

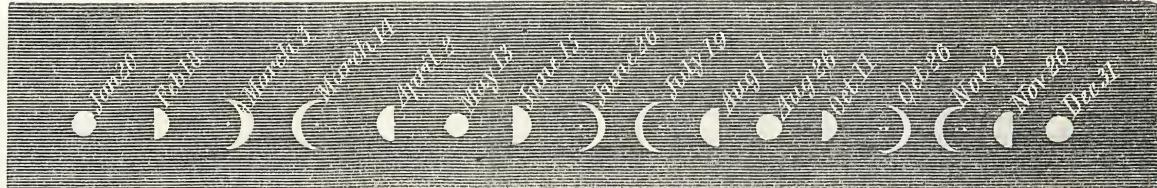
## FEBRUARY.

THE SUN is situated south of the Equator, and moving northwards. He is in the sign Aquarius (the Water-bearer) till the 19th; having been in that sign 29 days 14 hours and 37 minutes. On the 19th, at 4h. 14m. A.M., he enters the sign Pisces (the Fishes). His distance from the Earth on the 15th is 93,878,000 miles. He rises and sets on the 11th at the E.S.E., and the W.S.W. points of the horizon; and towards the end of the month about 2° S. of the E. by S. and the W. by S. points respectively.

The Moon enters the constellation Leo on the 2nd, Virgo on the 5th, Libra on the 9th, Scorpio on the 10th, Ophiuchus on the 11th, Sagittarius on the 12th, Capricornus on the 14th, Aquarius on the 16th, and Pisces on the 18th; thence

passing through Cetus on the same day, is in Pisces again on the 19th, and Cetus on the 20th; on the 21st she is in Aries, on the 22nd in Taurus, on the 25th in Gemini, and on the 27th in Cancer. She is about 23° north of the Equator on the 1st; crosses it, going southward, on the 6th; reaches her extreme south declination, at noon, on the 13th; crosses the Equator, going northward, on the 19th; and reaches her extreme north declination on the 26th. On the 2nd and 3rd she is near Regulus—being west of the star on the former, and east of it on the latter day; is near Spica Virginis on the morning of the 7th and 8th; Alpha Librae on the morning of the 9th and 10th; Jupiter on the 15th; Mars, Venus, and Mercury on the 17th; Uranus and the Pleiades on the 22nd; Aldebaran on the 23rd; Saturn and Beta Tauri on the 24th; and Castor and Pollux on the 26th and 27th.

## SUCCESSIONAL TELESCOPIC APPEARANCES OF MERCURY DURING 1855.

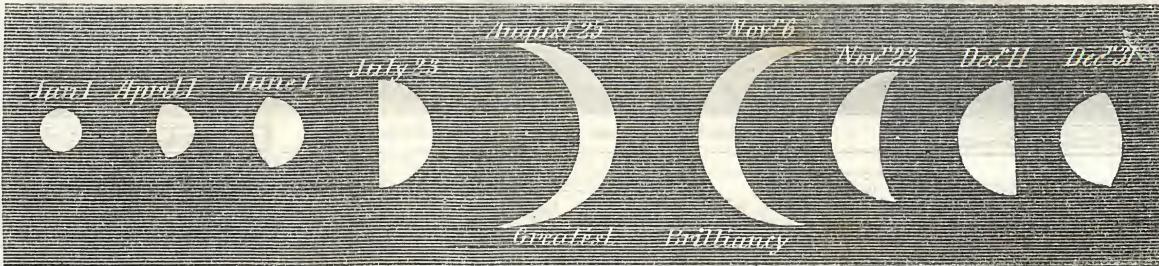


Scale, 40 seconds of arc to one inch.

MERCURY is in the constellation Capricornus till the 3rd, in Aquarius till the 17th, and in Pisces from the 18th. He is favourably situated for observation during the month; setting on the 1st at 5h. 28m. P.M., on the 10th at 6h. 26m., on the 20th at 7h. 8m., and on the last day at 6h. 45m. P.M. These times follow those of the Sun by 41 minutes on the 1st; increasing to 1h. 47m. by the 20th, and decreasing to 1h. 9m. by the last day. The points of the horizon at which he sets are about 3° north

of the W.S.W., at the beginning of the month; near the W. by S. about the middle; and due W. at the end of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars till the 23rd; is stationary among them on the 24th; is moving westward from the 25th; is near Mars and Venus (as shown in the annexed diagram) on the 8th, and the Moon on the 17th, Venus again on the 20th, and Mars on the 28th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in January.

## SUCCESSIONAL TELESCOPIC APPEARANCES OF VENUS DURING 1855.



Scale, 40 seconds of arc to one inch.

VENUS is in the constellation Aquarius till the 19th, and in Pisces to the end of the month. She is an evening star; setting on the 1st at 5h. 48m. P.M., on the 10th at 6h. 19m.; on the 20th at 6h. 51m.; and on the 28th at 7h. 17m. P.M. These times follow those of the Sun by 1h. 1m. on the 1st, increasing to 1h. 23m. by the 15th, and to 1h. 40m. by the 28th. She sets near the W.S.W. point of the horizon about the beginning of the month; near the W. by S. about the middle; and near the W. about the end of the month. She is moving eastward among the stars; and is near Mars on the 7th, Mercury on the 8th and 20th, and the Moon on the 17th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in next month.

MARS is in the constellation Aquarius till the 25th, and in Pisces to the end of the month. He sets on the 5th at 6h. 10m. P.M.; on the 15th at 6h. 16m.; and on the 25th at 6h. 21m. P.M.—near the W.S.W. point of the horizon at the be-

ginning of the month, and the W. at the end of the month. He souths at an altitude of 25° at the beginning of the month, and of 33° at the end of the month.

He is moving eastward among the stars; is near Venus on the 7th, the Moon on the 17th, and is near Mercury on the 8th and 28th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in April.

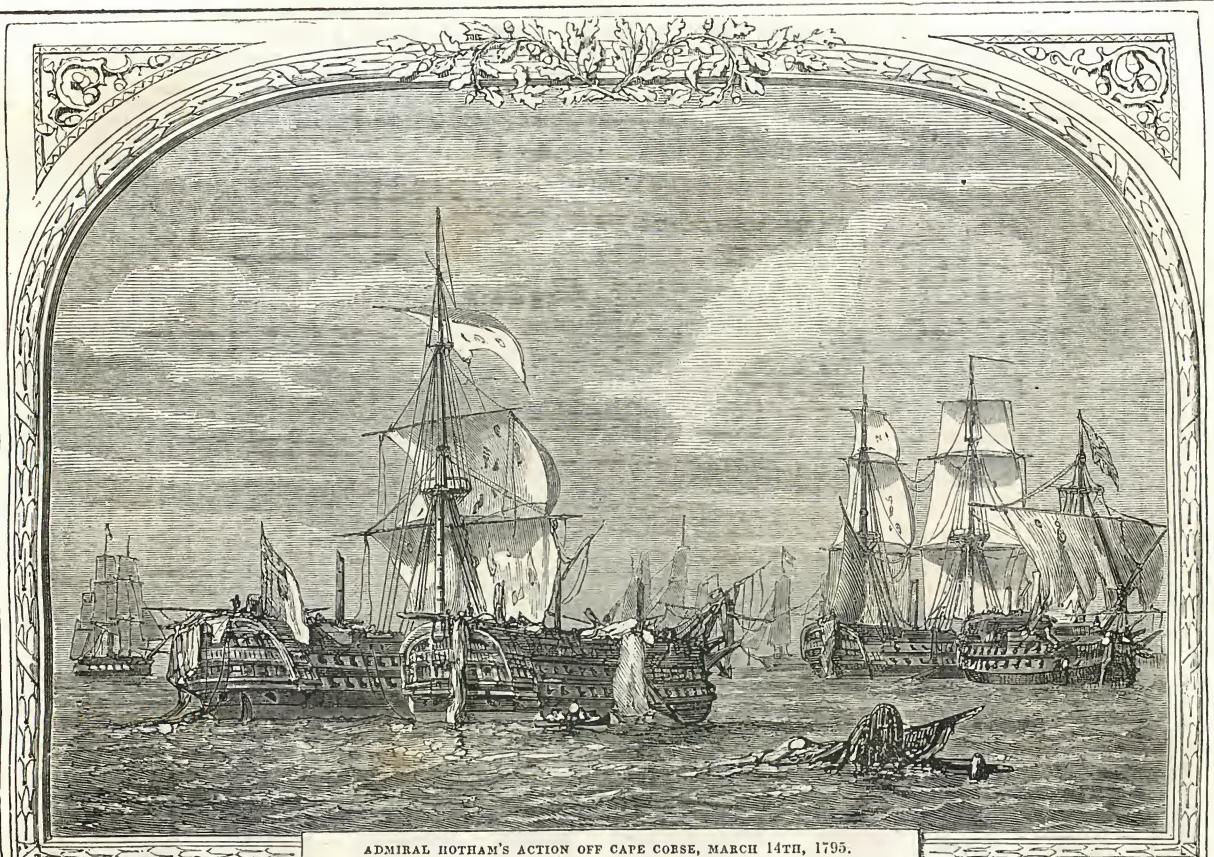
JUPITER is in the constellation Capricornus throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 7h. 39m. A.M., and on the last day at 6h. 9m. A.M., midway between the E.S.E. and the S.E. by E. points of the horizon, and is not favourably situated for observation. He souths at an altitude of 21½° about the middle of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 15th. He is badly situated for observation. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

(Continued on page 52.)

| Days of the Month. | TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN. |           |           |           |           |           | JUPITER'S SATELLITES. | OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON. |       |                     |                  |              |                   |
|--------------------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------|---------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|
|                    | Mercury.   | Venus.    | Mars.     | Jupiter.  | Saturn.   | Uranus.   |                       | Names of the Stars.                | Magi- | Times of disappear- | At which limb of | Between what | Latitudes visibl. |
|                    | Afternoon  | Afternoon | Afternoon | Afternoon | Afternoon | Afternoon |                       | Lambda Cancri                      | 6 {   | D. H. M.            | Dark             | 69° N. &     | 3° S.             |
| 1                  | 0 50   | 1 3       | 1 14      | 0 7       | 7 44      | 5 56      |                       |                                    | 1     | 1 19 A.M.           | Bright           |              |                   |
| 6                  | 1 4  | 1 8       | 1 9       | Morning.  | 7 25      | 5 37      |                       |                                    | 1     | 2 21 A.M.           |                  |              |                   |
| 11                 | 1 15   | 1 12      | 1 5       | 11 37     | 7 5       | 5 18      |                       |                                    |       |                     |                  |              |                   |
| 15                 | 1 20   | 1 14      | 1 1       | 11 25     | 6 49      | 5 2       |                       |                                    |       |                     |                  |              |                   |
| 19                 | 1 19   | 1 17      | 0 57      | 11 13     | 6 34      | 4 47      |                       |                                    |       |                     |                  |              |                   |
| 23                 | 1 11   | 1 20      | 0 53      | 11 1      | 6 18      | 4 32      |                       |                                    |       |                     |                  |              |                   |
| 28                 | 0 47   | 1 23      | 0 47      | 10 46     | 5 59      | 4 13      |                       |                                    |       |                     |                  |              |                   |

## RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS AT NOON.

| Days of the Month.  | MERCURY.        |                  | VENUS.          |                  | MARS.           |                  | JUPITER.        |                  | SATURN.         |                  | URANUS.         |                  |       |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------|
|                     | Right Ascension | North Polar Dis- |       |
| 1                   | 21h. 34m        | 106° 20'         | 21h. 48m        | 104° 55'         | 21h. 58m        | 103° 30'         | 20h. 52m        | 108° 14'         | 4h. 30m         | 69° 47'          | 2h. 42m         | 74° 39'          |       |
| 6                   | 6 22            | 8                | 102 51          | 22 12            | 102 46          | 22 14            | 102 5           | 20 56            | 107 55          | 4 30             | 69 46           | 2 42             | 74 38 |
| 11                  | 22              | 39               | 99 1            | 22 35            | 100 29          | 22 29            | 100 33          | 21 1             | 107 35          | 4 30             | 69 45           | 2 42             | 74 36 |
| 15                  | 23              | 0                | 95 58           | 22 54            | 98 34           | 22 40            | 99 26           | 21 5             | 107 19          | 4 30             | 69 44           | 2 43             | 74 34 |
| 19                  | 23              | 15               | 93 19           | 23 13            | 96 36           | 22 52            | 98 14           | 21 9             | 107 3           | 4 30             | 69 42           | 2 43             | 74 33 |
| FIRST QUARTER ..... | 23              | 5 34             | P.M.            |                  |                 |                  |                 |                  |                 |                  |                 |                  |       |
| APOGEE .....        | 1               | 2                | 0               | P.M.             | 23 23           | 22               | 91 27           | 23 31            | 94 35           | 23 4             | 106 47          | 4 31             | 69 40 |
| PERIGEE .....       | 16              | 2                | 0               | A.M.             | 23 23           | 22               | 91 27           | 23 31            | 97 0            | 21 12            | 106 47          | 4 31             | 74 31 |
| APOGEE .....        | 28              | 8                | 0               | P.M.             | 28 23           | 19               | 90 46           | 23 54            | 92 1            | 23 18            | 105 27          | 4 31             | 69 38 |



ADMIRAL HOTHAM'S ACTION OFF CAPE CORSE, MARCH 14TH, 1795.

| Day of Month | Day of Week                  | ANNIVERSARIES,<br>FESTIVALS,<br>OCCURRENCES, &c. | SUN.     |          |                                |                              |          |           | MOON.                           |                               |           |          |          |              | DURATION OF<br>MOONLIGHT. |          |          |                                   |                                     |                | HIGH WATER<br>AT LONDON BRIDGE.     |         |          |               | Day of<br>the Year |          |  |
|--------------|------------------------------|--|----------|----------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|-----------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|--------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------------|--------------------|----------|--|
|              |                              |  | SOUTHS.  |          |                                | RISES.                       |          |           | SOUTHS.                         |                               |           | RISES.   |          |              | SETS.                     |          |          | Before Sunrise.                   |                                     |                | Moon's<br>Age.                      |         |          | After Sunset. |                    | Morning. |  |
|              |                              |  | U.<br>H. | M.<br>M. | s.<br>s.                       | Deg.<br>Deg.                 | U.<br>H. | M.<br>M.  | s.<br>s.                        | Deg.<br>Deg.                  | U.<br>H.  | M.<br>M. | s.<br>s. | Deg.<br>Deg. | U.<br>H.                  | M.<br>M. | s.<br>s. | O'Clock.<br>0<br>2<br>4<br>5<br>6 | O'Clock.<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>10<br>12 | Moon's<br>Age. | O'Clock.<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>10<br>12 | H.<br>0 | M.<br>52 | H.<br>1       | M.<br>17           | 60       |  |
| 1 TH         | St. David.                   | Hare hunting ends.<br>Bustards.                  | 6 48     | 12 39    | 30 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>   | 5 38                         | 2 48     | 10 56     | 57 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>    | 6 27                          |           |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 13                                |                                     |                | 0                                   | 52      | 1        | 17            | 60                 |          |  |
| 2 F          | Chad.                        | shooting ends.                                   | 6 46     | 12 27    | 31 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>   | 5 39                         | 4 0      | 11 41     | 53 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>    | 6 47                          |           |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 14                                |                                     |                | 1                                   | 38      | 1        | 58            | 61                 |          |  |
| 3 S          | Regulus souths               | 11h 16m P.M.                                     | 6 44     | 12 15    | 31 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 5 41                         | 5 12     | Morning.  |                                 | 7 5                           |           |          |          |              |                           |          |          | ●                                 |                                     |                | 2                                   | 15      | 2        | 33            | 62                 |          |  |
| 4 S          | 2ND S. in LENT               |  | 6 42     | 12       | 2 32                           | 5 43                         | 6 23     | 0 23      | 48 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>    | 7 17                          |           |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 16                                |                                     |                | 2                                   | 48      | 3        | 4             | 63                 |          |  |
| 5 M          | Day increased                | 3h 19m   | 6 40     | 11       | 48                             | 32 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 5 44     | 7 34      | 1 44                            | 2 30                          |           |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 17                                |                                     |                | 3                                   | 18      | 3        | 32            | 64                 |          |  |
| 6 TU         | Sirius souths                | 7h 43m P.M.                                      | 6 38     | 11       | 34                             | 32 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 5 46     | 8 47      | 1 45                            | 36 <sup>2</sup> <sub>4</sub>  | 7 41      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 18                                |                                     |                | 3                                   | 45      | 4        | 0             | 65                 |          |  |
| 7 W          | Perpetua                     |  | 6 36     | 11       | 20                             | 33                           | 5 48     | 10 2      | 2 27                            | 31                            | 7 53      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 19                                |                                     |                | 4                                   | 15      | 4        | 30            | 66                 |          |  |
| 8 TH         | Castor souths                | 8h 22m P.M.                                      | 6 33     | 11       | 5 33 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 5 50                         | 11 20    | 3 11      | 25 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>    | 8 7                           |           |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 20                                |                                     |                | 4                                   | 44      | 5        | 1             | 67                 |          |  |
| 9 F          | Alpha Hydræ s.               | 10h 12m P.M.                                     | 6 31     | 10       | 50                             | 34                           | 5 51     | Morning.  | 3 58                            | 20                            | 8 26      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 21                                |                                     |                | 5                                   | 14      | 5        | 32            | 68                 |          |  |
| 10 S         | Length of day 11h 25m        |  | 6 28     | 10       | 34                             | 34 <sup>1</sup> <sub>5</sub> | 5 53     | 0 40      | 4 48                            | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 8 46      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 22                                |                                     |                | 5                                   | 50      | 6        | 9             | 69                 |          |  |
| 11 S         | 3RD S. in LENT               |  | 6 26     | 10       | 18                             | 34 <sup>2</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 5 55     | 2 2       | 5 44                            | 12 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 9 20      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | ●                                 |                                     |                | 6                                   | 29      | 6        | 52            | 70                 |          |  |
| 12 M         | St. Gregory                  |  | 6 24     | 10       | 2 35                           | 5 57                         | 3 18     | 6 43      | 10 <sup>5</sup> <sub>4</sub>    | 10                            | 7         |          |          |              |                           |          | 24       |                                   |                                     | 7              | 17                                  | 7       | 47       | 71            |                    |          |  |
| 13 TU        | Delta Leonis s.              | 11h 42m P.M.                                     | 6 21     | 9        | 46                             | 35 <sup>1</sup> <sub>5</sub> | 59       | 4 20      | 7 45                            | 10 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 11 12     |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 25                                |                                     |                | 8                                   | 28      | 9        | 16            | 72                 |          |  |
| 14 W         | Procyon souths               | 8h 4m P.M.                                       | 6 18     | 9        | 29                             | 35 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 6 0      | 5 9       | 8 48                            | 12 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>  | Afternoon |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 26                                |                                     |                | 10                                  | 5       | 10       | 57            | 73                 |          |  |
| 15 TH        | Twilight ends                | 7h 56m   | 6 16     | 9        | 12                             | 36 <sup>1</sup> <sub>6</sub> | 2        | 5 41      | 9 48                            | 16 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 2 5       |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 27                                |                                     |                | 11                                  | 44      | No Tide. |               | 74                 |          |  |
| 16 F         | Pollux souths                | 8h 1m P.M.                                       | 6 13     | 8        | 55                             | 36 <sup>3</sup> <sub>6</sub> | 4        | 6 6       | 10 45                           | 22                            | 3 38      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 28                                |                                     |                | 0                                   | 22      | 0        | 53            | 75                 |          |  |
| 17 S         | St. Patrick                  |  | 6 11     | 8        | 38                             | 37                           | 6        | 6 24      | 11 39                           | 28 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 5 8       |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 29                                |                                     |                | 1                                   | 20      | 1        | 46            | 76                 |          |  |
| 18 S         | 4TH S. in LENT.              |  | 6 9      | 8        | 20                             | 37 <sup>1</sup> <sub>6</sub> | 8        | 6 40      | Afternoon                       | 35 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 6 37      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | ○                                 |                                     |                | 2                                   | 8       | 2        | 28            | 77                 |          |  |
| 19 M         | [Princess Louisa born, 1818] |  | 6 7      | 8        | 2                              | 37 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 6 9      | 6 55      | 1 19                            | 42 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>  | 8 2       |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 1                                 |                                     |                | 2                                   | 51      | 3        | 10            | 78                 |          |  |
| 20 TU        | Alpha Hydræ s.               | 9h 29m P.M.                                      | 6 5      | 7        | 45                             | 38 <sup>4</sup> <sub>6</sub> | 11       | 7 10      | 2 8                             | 48 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>  | 9 25      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 2                                 |                                     |                | 3                                   | 32      | 3        | 49            | 79                 |          |  |
| 21 W         | Benedict                     |  | 6 3      | 7        | 27                             | 38 <sup>5</sup> <sub>6</sub> | 12       | 7 27      | 2 57                            | 54 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 10 48     |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 3                                 |                                     |                | 4                                   | 7       | 4        | 27            | 80                 |          |  |
| 22 TH        | Night decreased              | 4h 28m   | 6 1      | 7        | 8                              | 39                           | 6 14     | 7 47      | 3 48                            | 59 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>  | Morning   |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 4                                 |                                     |                | 4                                   | 45      | 5        | 3             | 81                 |          |  |
| 23 F         | Regulus souths               | 9h 57m P.M.                                      | 5 59     | 6        | 50                             | 39 <sup>2</sup> <sub>6</sub> | 15       | 8 12      | 4 40                            | 62 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>  | 0 9       |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 5                                 |                                     |                | 5                                   | 20      | 5        | 38            | 82                 |          |  |
| 24 S         | Day breaks 4h [day]          |  | 5 57     | 6        | 32                             | 39 <sup>3</sup> <sub>6</sub> | 17       | 8 45      | 5 32                            | 65 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 1 24      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 6                                 |                                     |                | 5                                   | 57      | 6        | 18            | 83                 |          |  |
| 25 S         | 5TH S. in LENT.              |  | 5 54     | 6        | 13                             | 40 <sup>1</sup> <sub>6</sub> | 18       | 9 27      | 6 24                            | 65 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 2 28      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 7                                 |                                     |                | 6                                   | 40      | 7        | 3             | 84                 |          |  |
| 26 M         | D. Camb., 1819               |  | 5 52     | 5        | 55                             | 40 <sup>2</sup> <sub>6</sub> | 20       | 10 22     | 7 16                            | 64 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>  | 3 21      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 8                                 |                                     |                | 7                                   | 30      | 8        | 4             | 85                 |          |  |
| 27 TU        | Beta Leonis s.               | 11h 22m P.M.                                     | 5 50     | 5        | 36                             | 41                           | 6 22     | 11 20     | 8 562 <sup>4</sup> <sub>3</sub> | 4 2                           |           |          |          |              |                           |          | 9        |                                   |                                     | 8              | 49                                  | 9       | 35       | 86            |                    |          |  |
| 28 W         | Length of Night              | 11h 23m  | 5 47     | 5        | 18                             | 41 <sup>1</sup> <sub>6</sub> | 24       | Afternoon | 8 52                            | 59 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 4 32      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 10                                |                                     |                | 10                                  | 22      | 11       | 8             | 87                 |          |  |
| 29 TH        | Delta Leonis s.              | 10h 39m P.M.                                     | 5 45     | 4        | 59                             | 41 <sup>3</sup> <sub>6</sub> | 26       | 1 45      | 9 37                            | 55 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>  | 4 55      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 11                                |                                     |                | 11                                  | 49      | No Tide. |               | 88                 |          |  |
| 30 F         | Camb.                        | Term ends  | 5 43     | 4        | 41                             | 42 <sup>1</sup> <sub>6</sub> | 28       | 2 58      | 10 20                           | 50 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>  | 5 12      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 12                                |                                     |                | 0                                   | 23      | 0        | 46            | 89                 |          |  |
| 31 S         | Oxford.                      | Term ends  | 5 41     | 4        | 22                             | 42 <sup>1</sup> <sub>6</sub> | 30       | 4 10      | 11                              | 244 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 5 25      |          |          |              |                           |          |          | 13                                |                                     |                | 1                                   | 7       | 1        | 26            | 90                 |          |  |



NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

March often will at first induce  
The lion's untamed form, and pour  
Abroad the blustering tempest's roar;  
Which, joined with "April's genial showers,"  
Will fill "May's lap" with blooming flowers.

The winds of March, which come careering over our fields, roads, and pathways, although cuttingly severe to the frail invalid, are highly beneficial to the soil, as they tend to dry up the damps which the previous frosts had prevented from soaking into the earth; and they "pipe to the spirit," too, ditties, the words of which tell tales of the forthcoming flowers. These now, with unerring order, advance in the fairy ranks of nature, and take their share in purifying and renovating the atmosphere.

Amidst the cool green raiment of Spring, and flourishing in damp woods and shady nooks, the moschatel (*Adoxa moschatellina*) unfolds those pale green flowers which, from their unassuming appearance, have given it the name of adoxa, or "without glory." The primrose (*Primula vulgaris*), so peculiar in colour as to have a name of its own; and the delicate anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*)—

Flower that seems not born to die,  
With its radiant purity,  
But to melt in air away.

Now also peeps the arum (*Arum maculatum*), "one of the prettiest fancies in Nature's wardrobe" (remarks Harvey); and it is so much admired by country people, that they have dignified it with the name of 'Lords and Ladies,' because it looks, I suppose, somewhat like a person of quality sitting with an air of ease and dignity, in his open sedan."

Sweet violets, Love's paradise, that spread  
The graceful odours which they couch'd bear,

now clothe the banks; and in woods where the soil is congenial, it is not at all uncommon to see a bed of sweet violets (*Viola odorata*) of a rich colour of their

own, then claret, dull red, pinkish white, and finally white. A striking contrast to these retired denizens of the shade, are the gay daffodil (*Narcissus pseudo narcissus*), immortalised by Wordsworth in his pretty sonnet:—

I wandered lonely as a cloud,  
That floats on high o'er vales and hills;  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host of golden daffodils—  
Beside the lake, among the trees,  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze!

Over, and about, and amongst all these treasures of the infant Spring, the delicate sulphur butterfly (*Gonepteryx rhamni*) and the small tortoiseshell butterfly (*Vanessa urtica*), the light orange underwing moth (*Brepho notha*), open and shut their painted wings to the transient sunbeam. The honey-bee (*Apis mellifera*) hums his lay of courtship; and his cousin, the humble-bee (*Bombus terrestris*), sirs his handsome plush jerkin. The useful scavenger, the dor beetle (*Geotropes stercorarius*), wheels his drony flight: the oil-beetle (*Proscopia vulgaris*) displays his armour, offensive and defensive; while, to complete the picture, that at once gluton and epicure, the banded snail (*Helix fasciata*), having crept from his winter retreat, and been awakened into full vigour by a genial shower or two, speedily makes amends for his long abstinence by feasting, with great complacency, on any delicate vegetable substance that comes in his way. Everywhere, in the most cultivated as well as the most barren spots—in the forests of Guiana, or Brazil, or in the Great Desert of Sahara—the common garden snail may be found to be always at home.

Where'er he dwells, he dwells alone,  
Except himself, has chattels none;  
Well satisfied to be his own  
Whole treasure.  
Give but his horns the slightest touch,  
His self-collecting power is such,  
He shrinks into his house, with much  
Displeasure.

## THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

MARCH.—THE SUBURBAN CEMETERIES.



It is a common reproach brought against us by our Continental neighbours that in our national character we are eminently wanting both in sentiment and veneration. They assert that this deficiency in our organisation is strikingly apparent in the slight esteem in which we are apt to hold dignities in general, unless accompanied by certain very tangible advantages. They accuse us of possessing little reverence for *la gloire*, national or individual, and declare that even in our domestic relations, on which we are apt to pride ourselves rather highly, the absence of sentiment is strikingly discernible, inasmuch as the anniversaries of our birthdays are often passed by without honour; in short, that we have scarcely a fête-day observance among us. Nor do our shortcomings terminate here. They aver that they extend even to those whom we have most loved and cherished in life, when departed from us, and the place that knew them bestow them no more: that we are content to put them out of our sight; and are accustomed to say in our hearts—They have departed, and be their memory forgotten from amongst us.

Whether this accusation be true or not, certain it is that our own beautiful suburban Cemeteries can boast few visitors in comparison with the numbers always seen in similar places abroad. Though each side of the metropolis can now boast of its own "God's acre" (as our pious forefathers were wont to characterise their last resting-places), all of which present in their several ways features of attractions peculiar to themselves. Located for the most part on elevated sites, commanding extensive views of the country around, surrounded by a wilderness of shrubbery, not alone of "melancholy yews," but of every flowering shrub that bears our chilly climate, it does seem singular that they should be so little frequented; their broad gravel-walks and smooth greenwards, offering, as it would appear, so many inducements to a lengthened and meditative stroll, particularly to persons generally so sober-minded as ourselves.

The Cemetery of Abney Park, at the eastern end of London, was once the stately pleasure of an old English mansion, well known to the antiquary of the last generation. It spreads its broad acres much as in days of yore, offering to the eye the same pastoral valleys lying at its feet, whilst in the distance the wooded heights of Totteridge and Edmonton (both Upper and Lower) seem to form a natural framework to the landscape. Here, where the rustic squire and stately dame once promenaded in all the pride of buckram and brocade, are paths not less picturesque, lawns not less verdant, whilst the same bright sun shines over all. The "yew-tree bower" is still in existence, though little frequented. Now and then a stray wayfarer may turn his head as he passes its iron gate, pause a moment to glance down its beautiful vista, and then, with accelerated footstep, hurry on to fulfil the duties or pleasures of the day.

The Northern Cemetery that crowns the hill of Highgate boasts its own individual features. Shut in by its belt of trees, its landscape is far less attractive than that of its neighbour. True, it looks down on the giant city at its feet, from whose toiling multitude its harvest for eternity is to be reaped. The sound of its cathedral bell, whose smoke-clad dome is visible in the distance, from time to time booms on the ear, wafted by the summer wind. The hum of the distant city, audible in the still evening, strikes on the heart, and is *felt* rather than heard, to mingle with the surrounding calm. Here rest in their last-long sleep not a few of those Merchant Princes, mighty in this world's goods, the wonder and envy of so many; and here, reposing beneath his modest tomb, and still more modest epitaph, lies the great good man, to whom his own country has so barely done justice—Samuel Taylor Coleridge. Strangers from the east and from the west have sought his grave, and blessed God, beside it, for the lessons of wisdom and knowledge which his meek spirit has left behind him, to strengthen in the battle of life those that shall come after him.

Less picturesque in situation than the northern and eastern grave-yards—the western Cemetery of Old Brompton—closely resembling a town garden of unusual extent—ripens in the close proximity of bustling life, and bids fair, with the neighbourhood springing up around it, soon to lose its character as a suburban sepulchre. Nothing that is wild, and little that is picturesque, attaches to its beauty. It flourishes like a well-kept pleasure-ground. No inequality of surface deceives the eye, as to its magnitude; no winding walks add artificial length to its space. Everything, as belonging to it, is precise and geometrical. Now and then a few single graves lie apart. But the exceptions are rare. In long straight lines the dead repose in silent neighbourhood—a brief space now and then intervening; vacant spots secured by the providence of the living to ensure a resting-place for themselves beside those they have lost in life, when time to them shall be no more. Family gatherings are these worthy the Hebrew epitaph—"They were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided."

Two peculiarities will strike the mind of the visitor to this enclosure—namely, the vast numbers of military men who appear to have chosen this as their last retreat—veterans of names well known in the wars of the last and present century—and who probably sought, in their old age, and found, in the medical staff attached to the College at Chelsea, that relief which is hardly to be met with to the same extent elsewhere. These, and the graves of women in the first bloom of existence may almost be said to abound. Here—gathered from far and near, as their stones record—lie a sisterhood of sorrow, who had sought, in the mild air of Brompton, relief from that scourge of the fair and young, consumption. It is impossible to look on such graves unmoved, or to read the ages of the victims without a sigh. What stories of hopes and fears does a sight of these little hillocks suggest to the mind, from the first insidious approach of disease to its final triumph: stealthily, yet like an armed man, sapping the very springs of life, whilst adding fresh beauty to the form. Who is there among us so happy as to be ignorant of its detail—of the brightened eye, of the blooming cheek, of the slight cough, working deeper day by day—often smothered, but never quite suppressed, to cheat the ear of some anxious listener? Who has not sighed over the delusive hope of recovery (almost more touching than despair), which forms so strong a feature of the disease? Who has not witnessed the patient endurance of some meek sufferer—the unceasing watchfulness of some untiring friend? True heroism, active and passive, and worthy an enduring record, if we were not accustomed to estimate heroism rather by the splendour than the merit of actions:

So let their graves with spring's first flowers be dressed,  
And the green turf lie lightly on their breast.

But whatever claims to notice and admiration the modern Golgothas above enumerated may present, the pre-eminence still remains with the one that was first opened among us—the north-western, at Kensal-green, or, as it is more familiarly designated, the Harrow-road Cemetery. At once the most extensive and most picturesque, it must be admitted by all to do full justice to the care and attention bestowed upon it, and to fulfil the liberal promises made to the public on its behalf. Located actually in the country, with only fair skies and green meadows around it a few years ago, and still open on every side to the pure breeze and blessed light of heaven, symptoms of the approach of busy life is seen even here. But enter within the gates, and how holy a calm seems to fall upon the spirit!

A place where all things mournful meet;  
And yet the sweetest of the sweet,  
The stilllest of the still.—WILSON.

All that presents itself in nature is beautiful; all that is unsightly of mortality is hid away. Its entrance, between bosquets of bright flowers and blooming shrubs, leads to pathways in every direction; and, turn we to the right or to the left, only images of repose meet the eye. Monuments of various styles mark the last homes of every grade of society, save that of the very poorest; nor can we take a step, or cast a glance anywhere, without something of interest rewarding the search. How many of the tenants of the grandest mausoleums erected here were familiar to us all—in their name, fame, and individuality? and from what various walks of life have they been gathered together, to fill up the high places of this solemn congregation?

Many monuments of a strictly architectural character, full of ornament, and wearing something of the appearance of miniature cathedrals, vary the scene, as well as others of a mediæval cast. It is, perhaps, not unworthy of remark, that the latter seems to be expressly chosen for the graves of those connected with the legal and clerical professions; whilst the few graves already tenanted by architects and sculptors of renown, as those of Smirke and of Bacon, are remarkable for their puritan plainness of design—a block of un-hewn stone sufficing for the monuments of those who have left (in their works) so many more enduring monuments behind them. Every variety of funeral urn that the ingenuity of man could devise seem congregated here—from those of "hoar antiquity" to many, fashioned by the fancy of modern taste. Some figure as principals, some as mere decorative accessories: all are more or less beautiful, and can never be out of keeping—time having consecrated its beautiful form to the very genius of Death and Mortality.

It is not, however, the most pretentious structures that present the chief interest to the thoughtful visitor. Every now and then we come upon some spot bearing a device or record of peculiar and individual taste, suggestive of speculations that cannot be solved; but which are not the less absorbing on that account. How many stones are to be seen, bearing a Christian name only—Marie, Blanche, Millicent. What were the histories of persons so designated? we enquire. To whom did they belong in life? by whom are they lamented in death?

One nameless tomb of dove-coloured marble bears on its face two delicately-sculptured hands, clasped together not as in prayer but in greeting—probably a faithful representation of the last grasp exchanged between the living and the dead. Another grave-stone presents, in the form of a gigantic hour-glass, an enduring *tempus fugit*—a perpetual reminder of the flight of time to every passer-by. A lyre surmounting a pillar of some magnitude, would seem to indicate the grave of a poet—a native of the sister kingdom, as we learn from the inscription—and probably less known than he deserves to be.

Memorial pillars, pyramids, and crosses of every variety abound. Graves wrapt in circular stone, emulative of those of our Saxon ancestors; altar-like tombs, and broken columns are, excepting the common head-stone, perhaps the most numerous.

But we must not pass without a word those garden-like graves that present so fair a feature of the scene, and which are indebted to nature alone for their embellishment. And see how large an amount of adornment six feet of earth may be made to exhibit. On some the aim would seem to be to show "the seasons and their change," in successive flowers; on others, the perennial cypress alone appears. On one grave four shrubs of this kind have expanded into a living pyramid, excluding the very light of day from the tomb they were intended to decorate. Another grave—the most poetical of all (it might have been that of *Lycidas* himself)—so completely are earth and stone shrouded by "ivy never sera," not in straggling clusters, but bearing witness in its wild luxuriance that the careful hand of taste has been busy in its twining. May the memory of the departed be ever green as his grave! On the graves of children it is observable that such flowers for the most part are selected as fancy has chosen, from their pure whiteness, emblematical of innocence—the snowdrop, the narcissus, the daisy: one little grave is literally enveloped by "the weet-tipped flower." The white rose flourishes abundantly everywhere; sometimes presenting itself, in high culture, sometimes in briar-like luxuriance—but always in beauty. It would seem to have attached itself peculiarly to the soil, for even in December it may be seen putting forth buds, never destined, however, to expand into flowers.

If these brief reminiscences of a few hours passed among the tombs should be of interest to any reader, let him visit the scenes we have attempted to describe, and thus help to wipe away the handwriting of accusation so generally existing against us, that our sympathy with the departed is reserved for those of foreign nations alone.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

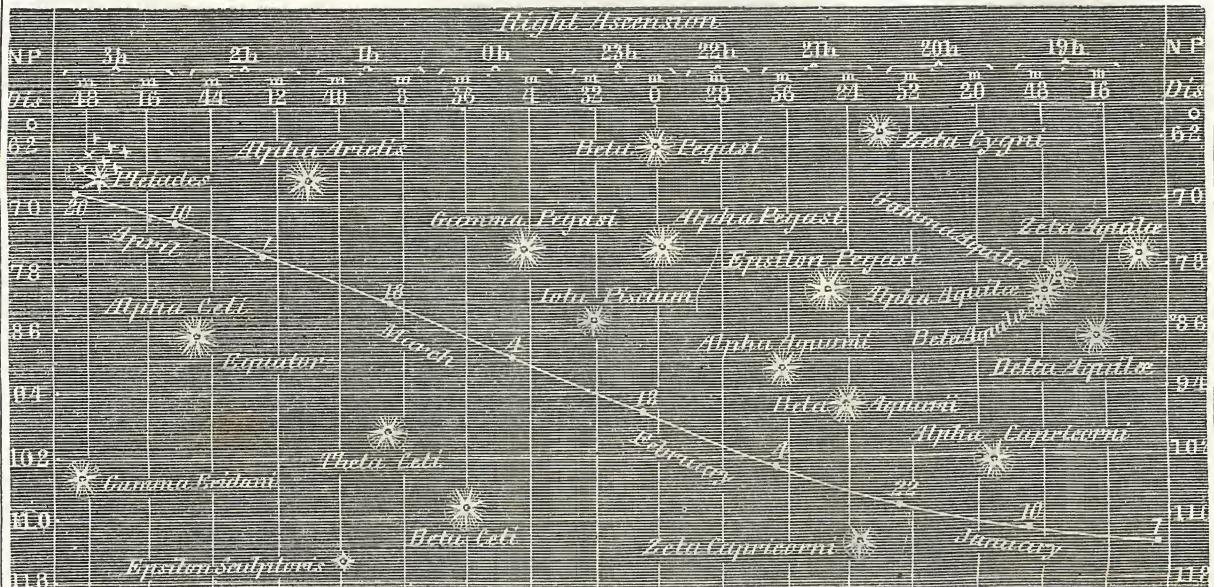
MARCH.

THE SUN is situated south of the Equator till the 21st, on which day he crosses it, and enters the sign Aries (the Ram), at 4h. 7m. A.M. He is in the sign Pisces (the Fishes) till the 21st, having been in that sign 29 days 23 hours and 53 minutes. His distance from the Earth on the 15th is 94,535,000 miles. He

sets on the 1st at the W. by S., and on the 21st at the W., points of the horizon; and rises on the same days at the corresponding point in the Eastern horizon.

The Moon, on the 1st, enters into Leo; is in Virgo on the 4th; in Libra, on the 8th; in Scorpio, on the 10th; thence, passing through Ophiuchus on the same day, enters Sagittarius on the 11th; Capricornus, on the 14th; Aquarius, on the 15th; Pisces, on the 16th; Cetus, on the 18th; and Pisces again on the 19th. On

## THE PATH OF VENUS FROM JANUARY 1 TO APRIL 20, 1855.



Scale, 21 degrees to one inch.

the 20th she is in Aries, having again passed through part of Cetus; and, on the 21st is in Taurus; in which constellation she remains till the 25th, when she enters into Gemini; thence, on the 27th, into Cancer; and on the 28th, into Leo; and on the 31st, into Virgo. She is about  $21^{\circ}$  north of the Equator at the beginning of the month; crosses it, going southward, on the 5th; is at her extreme south declination on the 12th; crosses the Equator, going northward, on the 18th; is at her extreme north declination on the 25th; and is about  $9^{\circ}$  north of the Equator at the end of the month. She is near Regulus on the 2nd; Spica Virginis, the 6th and morning of the 7th; Antares, on the 10th; Jupiter, on the 15th; Mercury, on the 16th; Mars, on the 18th; Venus, on the 19th; Uranus, on the 21st; between Aldebaran and Beta Tauri, and near Saturn, on the 23rd; Castor and Pollux, on the 26th; and Regulus, on the 29th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Pisces till the 5th, and in Aquarius to the end of the month. He sets on the 1st, at 6h. 40m. P.M., being 1h. 2m. after the Sun; at the same time as the Sun on the 7th; and before him from the 8th. He rises, on the 1st, at 6h. 41m. A.M.; on the 13th, at 5h. 44m.; on the 23rd, at 5h. 17m.; and on the 31st, at 5h. 3m. A.M. These times precede those of the Sun by 7m. on the 1st; increasing to 37 m. by the 13th; to 42 m. by the 23rd; and decreasing to 38m. on the 31st. He rises near the E. point of the horizon about the beginning of the month; and near the E. by S. about the end of the month. He is moving westward among the stars till the 17th; is stationary among them on the 18th; is moving eastward from the 19th; is in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the 6th; and near the Moon on the 16th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in January.

VENUS is in the constellation Pisces till the 6th; in Cetus till the 14th; in

Pisces again, till the 24th; in Cetus a second time, till the 26th; and in Aries to the end of the month. She is an evening star: setting, on the 1st, at 7h. 20m. P.M.; on the 12th, at 7h. 55m.; on the 22nd, at 8h. 28m.; and on the last day, at 8h. 56m. P.M. following the sun by 1h. 42m. on the 1st; increasing to 2h. 56m. by the last day. She sets near the W. point of the horizon about the beginning of the month; near the W. by N. about the middle; and near the W.N.W. about the end of the month. She is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 19th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the annexed diagram.

Mars is in the constellation Pisces till the 29th, and in Cetus to the end of the month. He sets, on the 1st, at Gh. 22m. P.M.; and, on the 31st, at Gh. 40m. P.M.: about  $29^{\circ}$  N. of the W. by S. point of the horizon at the beginning of the month; due W. about the 17th, and about  $3^{\circ}$  N. of the W. by N. point of the horizon at the end of the month. He souths at an altitude of  $33\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$  at the beginning of the month, and of  $42^{\circ}$  at the end of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 18th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the annexed diagram.

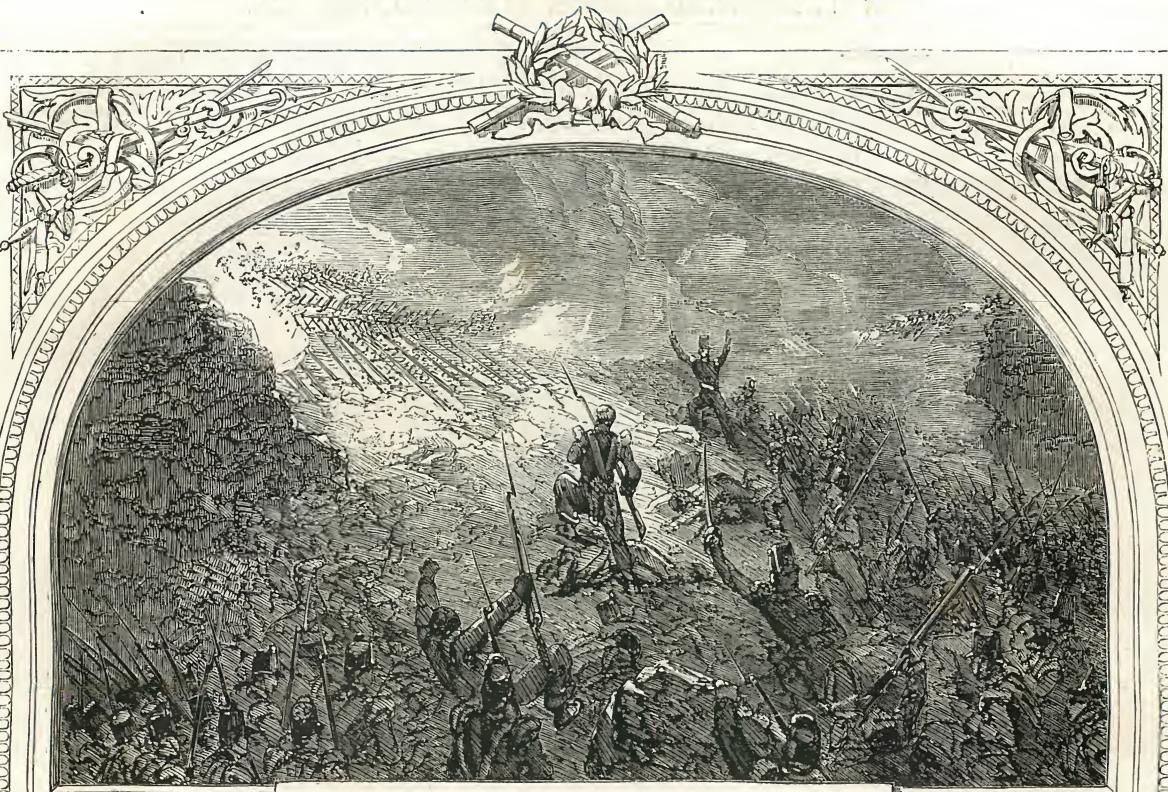
JUPITER is in the constellation Capricornus throughout the month. He rises, on the 1st, at 6h. 5m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 5h. 18m.; and, on the 31st, at 4h. 22m. A.M., near the E.S.E. point of the horizon. He soths at an altitude of  $22^{\circ} 14'$  at the beginning of the month; increasing to  $24^{\circ}$  by the end of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 15th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

*(Continued on page 52.)*

| Days of<br>the Month. | TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR<br>PASSING THE MERIDIAN. |                     |                    |                     |                      |                      | JUPITER'S SATELLITES. |            |              | OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON. |                  |   |              |                                  |  |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------|--------------|------------------------------------|------------------|---|--------------|----------------------------------|--|
|                       | Mercury.<br>Afternoon                                      | Venus.<br>Afternoon | Mars.<br>Afternoon | Jupiter.<br>Morning | Saturn.<br>Afternoon | Uranus.<br>Afternoon | Eclipses of           |            |              | Names of the Stars.                | Magni-<br>tude.  | Times of disappear-<br>ance & re-appear-<br>ance of the Star. |              | At which<br>limb of<br>the Moon. | Between<br>what<br>Latitudes<br>visible. |
|                       |  | H. M.               | H. M.              | H. M.               | H. M.                | H. M.                | 1st Satellite.        | Disappear. | D. H. M.     | D. H. M.                           |                  | D. 10 20 P.M.   | Dark         | 57° N. &<br>31° S.               |  |
| 1                     | 0 41   | 1 23                | 0 46               | 10 43               | 5 56                 | 4 .9                 |                       |            | 10 6 20 A.M. |                                    | Gamma Virginis   | 4 {   | 5 10 20 P.M. | Bright                           | 57° N. &                                 |
| 6                     | Morning  | 1 26                | 0 41               | 10 28               | 5 37                 | 3 50                 |                       |            |              |                                    |                  |   | 5 10 36 P.M. | Dark                             | 31° S.                                   |
| 11                    | 11 30  | 1 29                | 0 35               | 10 13               | 5 18                 | 3 31                 |                       |            |              |                                    | Delta Scorpii .. | 3 {   | 10 0 51 A.M. | Bright                           | 62° N. &                                 |
| 16                    | 11 1   | 1 32                | 0 30               | 9 57                | 5 0                  | 3 12                 |                       |            |              |                                    |                  |   | 10 1 49 A.M. | Dark                             | 11° S.                                   |
| 21                    | 10 41  | 1 35                | 0 24               | 9 42                | 4 42                 | 2 53                 |                       |            |              |                                    | A' Tauri .....   | 5 {   | 22 8 58 P.M. | Dark                             | 67° N. &                                 |
| 26                    | 10 30  | 1 38                | 0 19               | 9 26                | 4 23                 | 2 34                 |                       |            |              |                                    |                  |   | 22 9 52 P.M. | Bright                           | 11° S.                                   |
| 31                    | 10 24  | 1 42                | 0 13               | 9 11                | 4 5                  | 2 16                 | D. H. M.              |            | 5 6 19 A.M.  |                                    | Eta Leonis ..... | 3 {   | 23 5 52 P.M. | Dark                             | 57° N. &                                 |
|                       |  |                     |                    |                     |                      |                      | 19 5 49 A.M.          |            |              |                                    |                  |   | 29 6 36 P.M. | Bright                           | 24° S.                                   |

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON.

And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee)  
or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth



STORMING OF BADAJOZ, UNDER WELLINGTON,  
APRIL 6TH, 1812.

| Day of Month | Day of Week | SUN. SOUTH.                 |                   |                       |                       |           |                        | MOON. SOUTH.         |                |          |                 |             |          | DURATION OF MOONLIGHT. |   |   |    |    |    | HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE. |           | Day of the Year |     |
|--------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------|-----------------|-------------|----------|------------------------|---|---|----|----|----|------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----|
|              |             | Rises.                      | After 12 o'clock. | Height above horizon  | Sets.                 | Rises.    | Afternoon              | Height above horizon | Sets, Morning. | O'Clock. | Before Sunrise. | Moon's Age. | O'Clock. | 7                      | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | Morning.                     | Afternoon |                 |     |
| 1            | S           | Palm Sun. All Fools Day     | 5 38              | 4 4 43                | 6 31                  | 5 21      | 11 43 39               | 5 38                 |                |          |                 | 14          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 91  |
| 2            | M           | Alpha Hydri s. 8h33m P.M.   | 5 36              | 3 46 43 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 6 33                  | 6 34      | Morning.               | 5 50                 |                |          |                 | 16          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 92  |
| 3            | Tu          | Richard Bp. Ch.             | 5 34              | 3 27 43 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 6 35                  | 7 50      | 0 25 33                | 6 1                  |                |          |                 | 17          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 93  |
| 4            | W           | St. Ambrose                 | 5 31              | 3 9 44                | 6 37                  | 9 9       | 1 827                  | 6 14                 |                |          |                 | 18          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 94  |
| 5            | Th          | Maunday Thurs.              | 5 29              | 2 52 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 6 38                  | 10 29     | 1 55 21 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 6 29                 |                |          |                 | 19          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 95  |
| 6            | F           | Good FRIDAY                 | 5 27              | 2 34 44 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 6 40                  | 11 51     | 2 45 16 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 6 51                 |                |          |                 | 20          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 96  |
| 7            | S           | Fire Insurance due          | 5 24              | 2 17 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 6 41                  | Morning.  | 3 39 13                | 7 19                 |                |          |                 | 21          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 97  |
| 8            | S           | EASTER SUNDAY               | 5 22              | 1 59 45 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 6 43                  | 1 9       | 4 37 10 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 8 1                  |                |          |                 | 22          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 98  |
| 9            | M           | Easter Monday               | 5 20              | 1 42 46               | 6 44                  | 2 16      | 5 38 10 $\frac{1}{4}$  | 9 1                  |                |          |                 | 23          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 99  |
| 10           | Tu          | Easter Tuesday              | 5 18              | 1 26 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 6 45                  | 3 8       | 6 39 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 10 16                |                |          |                 | 24          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 100 |
| 11           | W           | Regnulussouths 8h43m P.M.   | 5 15              | 1 9 46 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 6 47                  | 3 45      | 7 39 14 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 11 42                |                |          |                 | 25          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 101 |
| 12           | Th          | Twilight ends 8h 56m        | 5 13              | 0 53 47               | 6 48                  | 4 10      | 8 35 19 $\frac{1}{2}$  | Afternoon            |                |          |                 | 26          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 102 |
| 13           | F           | Delta Leonis s. 9h 40m P.M. | 5 11              | 0 37 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 6 50                  | 4 30      | 9 28 25 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 2 40                 |                |          |                 | 27          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 103 |
| 14           | S           | Length of Day 13h 43m       | 5 9               | 0 22 47 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 6 52                  | 4 46      | 10 19 32               | 4 8                  |                |          |                 | 28          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 104 |
| 15           | S           | 1st S. aft. EASTER          | 5 7               | 0 7 48 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 6 54                  | 4 59      | 11 839                 | 5 31                 |                |          |                 | 29          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 105 |
| 16           | M           | [Easter Tm. b.              | 5 5               | Before 12 o'clock.    | 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ 6 55 | 5 16      | 11 56 45 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 6 56                 |                |          |                 | 30          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 106 |
| 17           | Tu          | Beta Leonis souths 10h P.M. | 5 2               | 0 22 48 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 6 57                  | 5 30      | Afternoon              | 52                   | 8 20           |          |                 | 31          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 107 |
| 18           | W           | Oxf. & Cam. T. b.           | 5 0               | 0 36 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 6 59                  | 5 48      | 1 35 57 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 9 42                 |                |          |                 | 32          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 108 |
| 19           | Th          | St. Alphage                 | 4 57              | 0 50 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 7 1                   | 6 11      | 2 27 61 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 11 1                 |                |          |                 | 33          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 109 |
| 20           | F           | Day breaks 2h 41m           | 4 56              | 1 350                 | 7 2                   | 6 40      | 3 21 64 $\frac{1}{4}$  | Morning.             |                |          |                 | 34          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 110 |
| 21           | S           | Spica souths 11h 20m P.M.   | 4 55              | 1 16 50 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 7 4                   | 7 17      | 4 14 65 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 0 14                 |                |          |                 | 35          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 111 |
| 22           | S           | 2ND S. aft. EAST.           | 4 53              | 1 29 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 7 6                   | 8 8       | 5 7 65 $\frac{1}{4}$   | 1 13                 |                |          |                 | 36          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 112 |
| 23           | M           | St. George                  | 4 51              | 1 41 51               | 7 8                   | 9 9       | 5 58 63 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 1 59                 |                |          |                 | 37          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 113 |
| 24           | Tu          | Beta Corvi s. 10h 17m P.M.  | 4 49              | 1 52 51 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 7 10                  | 10 16     | 6 46 61                | 2 35                 |                |          |                 | 38          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 114 |
| 25           | W           | St. Mark. Prs.              | 4 47              | 2 351 $\frac{1}{2}$   | 7 11                  | 11 28     | 7 32 57                | 2 58                 |                |          |                 | 39          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 115 |
| 26           | Th          | [Alice b., 1843             | 4 45              | 2 14 52               | 7 13                  | Afternoon | 8 15 52 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 3 18                 |                |          |                 | 40          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 116 |
| 27           | F           | Length of night 9h 29m      | 4 43              | 2 24 52 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 7 14                  | 1 52      | 8 57 47 $\frac{1}{4}$  | 3 32                 |                |          |                 | 41          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 117 |
| 28           | S           | Arcturus s. 11h 44m P.M.    | 4 41              | 2 34 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 7 16                  | 3 4       | 9 38 41 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 3 45                 |                |          |                 | 42          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 118 |
| 29           | S           | 3RD S. aft. EAST.           | 4 39              | 2 43 53               | 7 17                  | 4 16      | 10 20 35 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 3 58                 |                |          |                 | 43          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 119 |
| 30           | M           | Spica souths 10h 44m P.M.   | 4 37              | 2 52 53 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 7 19                  | 5 31      | 11 3 29 $\frac{1}{4}$  | 4 10                 |                |          |                 | 44          |          |                        |   |   |    |    |    |                              |           |                 | 120 |



## NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

And the Spring arose on the garden fair,  
Like the Spirits of Love falt everywhere;  
And each flower and herb on earth's dark breast  
Rose from its dream of wintry rest.

CAPRICIOUS as it may be, who does not love the month of April, "with its laughing and crying days, when sun and shade seem to chase each other over the landscape, when the bright sunbeam courses over the flying cloud, and turns its drops into many-coloured gems."

Such alternations of sunshine and rain, and the increasing softness of the

Vernal gales that sweep the Spring's enamelled floor,  
well entitle this month to its name of Flowery April.

For dazzling carpets have the meads prepared  
As if the ralbows of the fresh mild Spring  
Had blossomed where they fell.

Beautiful are now the white and blushing blossoms of the fruit-trees; and primroses, with their pretty relatives, the cowslip and oxlip, offer a pleasing contrast to the wild hyacinth (*Scilla non-scripta*).

That English sensitive plant, the wood-sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*), with its pale purple-veined petals, now expands over the heart-shaped and triply-folded bright but delicate green leaves; its root, creeping, like beaded coral. The curious snake's-head (*Fritillaria meleagris*) hangs forth its solitary tulip-shaped flower; and, opening to the changeable skies of April, sits the Pasque flower (*Anemone pulsatilla*) in her upland solitude on the heath.

The cowslip (*Primula veris*), the eye-bright speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*), the early purple orchis (*Orchis mascula*); in its "quaint shaping," its leaves marked with dark purple spots; the dainty little marsh violet (*Viola palustris*). In the garden, we may notice that fragrant native of Switzerland, now naturalised in our *parterres*, the cyclamen (*Cyclamen Europeum*).

Butterflies—certainly the loveliest of all the insect world, if not of all animal creation—

Expanding of the brodered wing,  
Through fields of air prepared to sail,  
Now on the venturous journey spring,  
And float along the rising gale!

Accompanying the sun in his course, and, before he sets, disappearing, the skies are the home of the butterfly; the air is its element, and the varied clothing of its powdery wings may truly be said to rival the pageantry of princes. The orange-tip butterfly (*Euchloe cardamines*), though not one of the most splendid, is still a beautiful object, from the lovely contrast of its orange and green wings. Moths, too, are now pretty numerous, and some of them, as the Kentish Glory (*Endromis versicolor*), and the Marvellous Jour (*Mikta Aprilina*), are very richly tinted.

We admire butterflies, but have a lingering prejudice against their more soberly-clad brethren, because we associate them with corruption, with the destruction of books, and of goodly garments; but there is not one which is not more or less useful, in many ways, to birds and bats; and with regard to our own interests, we should recollect, that although a few may be notorious for their depredations, we are indebted to the silkworm moth for more of the richest of our garments, than their predatory kinsmen can possibly destroy. St. Pierre has prettily said, "that the weevil and the moth, obliged the wealthy monopolier to bring his goods to market, and by destroying the wardrobes of the opulent, they give bread to the industrious."

Those favourites of young people, seven-spot ladybirds (*Coccinella septem punctata*), are decidedly useful in their generation, both in their larva and perfect state, by devouring the aphides which infest plants.

Whoever has looked attentively at a shallow pool for a few moments, must have noticed many moving objects, like bits of sticks, from about an inch in length, and from one end of which, protrude a head and six legs. These are the tubs of the caddis worms, the larva of the genus *Phryganæa*, well known to anglers as the water-moth, and taking its name from the Greek, a "dry stick." For an equally expressive name, is the happy little humble-bee fly also indebted to the Greek; taking its name *Bombylius* from the bubbling and buzzing noise it makes, when disporting in the sultry weather in which it delights.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

APRIL.—THE FIRST DINNER PARTY.



On a certain evening in the month of April a young married couple were seated before their dining-room fire, discussing the propriety of a step, as yet unprecedented in their household career. Mr. and Mrs. Stanley had, as they remarked to each other, with many little felicitations, of no particular consequence to the reader, been married almost a year. They had some time since completed the round of complimentary entertainments, with which friends and acquaintances had heralded their promotion to the sphere of married life, and the time had now arrived, they agreed, when these hospitalities should be returned. A dinner party was due to society, and dinner party they resolved to give, without any unnecessary delay. The idea had indeed found entrance into the minds of both, some little time before the fact was acknowledged by either; for each had some private motive for preserving silence on the subject. Charles Stanley was perfectly aware, from divers little misadventures connected with the domestic arrangements of the establishment, that his little wife, was, to say the least of it, not an experienced manager; and, although this circumstance had never seriously interfered with his own comfort, or excited much uneasiness in his mind, he had misgivings that it would be wise to appear embarking him in the serious enterprise of a dinner party, until she could manage a refractory servant without sending for her aunt, or provide for a stray visitor without a hint from himself. It was not, however, any doubt of her own capacity for carrying through the undertaking, which had checked the idea in the mind of the bride. No one could for a moment have attributed to Mrs. Stanley conceit as a general characteristic; in respect to her capacity for housekeeping, however, the tone she took in conversation was positively arrogant. It was no mistrust of herself therefore, that deterred her from the proposal of a dinner party; it was solely the reflection that it would be so serious a departure from the principle of strict economy, which she had laid down for herself, and to which she had adhered as far as lay in her power, not infrequently to her husband's vexation.

When, however, the word was by chance spoken, which revealed their congeniality of feeling as to the propriety of the step, regarded in a social aspect, all lets and hindrances vanished, as if by magic. Charles assured his wife, that on the strength of a new client, he could conscientiously give her *carte blanche* as to expense; and thus quieted her scruples; whilst his own delicate hint that (just to save herself trouble—for no other reason in the world), he thought she had better take counsel with his mother or her aunt, on the details of the affair, though not finding positive acceptance, called forth such confident promises of success, that, being of a trusting disposition, he felt quite at ease, and dismissed the subject from his mind. It was, however, not unfrequently recalled by the appearance at their family dinner of certain mysterious novelties, which he rather nervously suspected to be experiments having reference to the great day. Mrs. Stanley had from the first moment resolved that the glories of her dinner party should be the result of her own unaided genius; for she intended it to be a triumph in more ways than one. Its elegance should confirm Charles's faith in her for the rest of their lives; should reveal to her aunt a mine of domestic knowledge, concerning the existence of which she knew that relative to be very sceptical; and, finally, should be instrumental in compelling her mother-in-law, that prophetess of evil, before whom she would lay her accounts, to acknowledge herself equalled, if not surpassed in good management.

All these achievements seemed feasible enough in theory; but, as the three weeks' respite glided away, Mrs. Stanley found her cares and responsibilities pressing more heavily upon her; whilst, unfortunately, her confidence in her own ability to meet them decreased in a proportionate ratio. In a moment of deep depression, it did occur to her to have recourse to the confectioner, and to cast all her cares upon him; but that was a confession of weakness too humiliating to be seriously entertained; so she expended a guinea in the purchase of a most elaborate cookery-book, containing plates of wonderful repasts, with descriptive letter-press, and, after deep study, devised her three courses in a manner which she fondly hoped might eventuate satisfactorily.

The important day dawned at last; too soon for her wishes. Proceedings were opened at an early hour in the morning, by the appearance of the cook, who had scornfully rejected all offers of material assistance, but who now de-

clared, with a burst of tears and a look of injured innocence, that she never could get through what remained to be done before seven o'clock that evening, as her mistress must know perfectly well. The heart of the latter sank within her, as she listened to this awful announcement; but, instead of relieving her own feelings by giving notice to quit, the exigency of the case obliged her to administer a glass of wine and words of encouragement, by means of which diplomacy the business of the day was once more set in motion. No very great *contretemps* occurred during the morning, except that the pine-apple, which had been purchased a wonderful bargain, and selected from a lot of ten thousand, as per advertisement, proved, on its arrival, to have degenerated so marvellously, that Mrs. Stanley was compelled at the last moment to sail forth into the neighbourhood for the purpose of replacing it, and moreover to consider herself fortunate in securing a presentable one, even at a price which would counterbalance all her little economies for weeks to come. In consequence, too, of this unexpected errand, her toilette was so far delayed, that the first knock came before it was completed; and, although, by using a degree of expedition, not at all advantageous to her personal appearance, she was in readiness to receive the second detachment of guests, the ceremony was performed, she felt with precisely the same *distract*, anxious air which she had so often reprobed in other hostesses, but which would henceforth excite in her the deepest sympathy. The profound calmness exhibited by her husband did not tend to re-assure her in the least, for she knew he was relying on those promises of success with which she had been so liberal three weeks before; but which, at that moment, she would have been sorry to confirm.

Meantime, the dual number of portly married couples, and other guests, had made their appearance. They were chiefly strangers to each other, and having for the most part donned with their velvet dresses and white cravats an icy dignity of demeanour which was as yet unthawed, the period before the announcement of dinner promised to be more than usually dismal. Minute after minute glided away, and in an interval of unbroken silence the clock chimed the half hour with unpleasant distinctness. Mrs. Stanley's uneasiness became almost unbearable, for she fancied that her mother-in-law looked triumphant, and was certain that her husband stirred the fire with a frequency and impetuosity not at all characteristic of his usually placid demeanour. She had watched the door so long in vain, that it seemed an unexpected piece of good fortune to every one, when it really did open to the welcome announcement of dinner. But at this juncture a new difficulty presented itself for the hostess. Having rather a taste for lions, she had invited, on her own responsibility, a very young poet whom she had recently encountered in society. This youth considered himself by virtue of his "Poetic Weeds," the most distinguished individual in the assembly, and gave public evidence of his opinion, by offering his arm to the lady of the house, who, perplexed by many anxieties, had not presence of mind to decline it, though she pertained to a certain rich middle-aged gentleman, from whom Charles had expectations. This injured man was too much aghast at this infringement of his rights to think of repairing his loss, and was therefore left to follow the procession in solitary state, and to occupy the odd seat at the corner of the table.

The first course might have been considered successful, for, although competent authorities afterwards pronounced that the white soup was a little too thick, the brown a little too thin, and that the fish might have been fresher, all looked fair externally, and at any rate every one was occupied. But, with the *entrees* came mortification for the hostess. They consisted of pet compositions of the cook, for which the attendants were unable to find a name, or of imperfect realizations of the creations of M. Soyer; but in both cases the result was the same; people inquired into these mysteries only with their eyes. The *pièces de résistance* were therefore in request; but those who got a supply of viands, in vain waited for vegetables; and there seemed every probability that one modest damsel would be obliged to satisfy herself with the temperate refreshment of her roll; for the waiters were tyros in their art—economical experiments which, like the pineapple, turned out badly. Mrs. Stanley was keenly sensitive to the fact that her guests concluded the second division of their gastronomical operations with great celerity; but so it was, and the table was cleared for the sweets, during an awful pause. Every one appeared to be searching for an idea; but the combined intellects of twenty people could only originate two invitations to take wine, which, of course, led to no conversational consequences. At this inauspicious juncture, an attendant approached the unhappy hostess with an air of confidential misery; her two supporters ostentatiously turned away their heads, and she received the overwhelming intelligence that the pudding—the confectioner's pudding—on which she relied for consolation, had met with an accident on its journey up stairs, and was but a heap of ruins. She had just strength to desire that the table might be covered in some way, and then swallowed the remnant of her champagne to nerve her for what was to come. With the usual want of tact, which distinguishes servants in general, and hired waiters in particular, the first object which relieved the monotonous expanse of white table-cloth, was the *debris* of the pudding—an unwholesome, incomprehensible mass, at which every one had ample opportunity of gazing and wondering, before the entrance of some more recognisable condiments, enabled them to resume their repast. The gentlemen fell back upon the game, though it had been out of season for a month, and the ladies were faithful to the jelly; for the melancholy top dish was, by common consent, ignored. It might have been observed, that when the cheese and croutons were offered, a serious onslaught was made upon them; while of the ornamented sponge-cake, generally held sacred at dessert, not a morsel escaped. The reader may draw his own conclusions from these facts. It only remains to add that the ice was perfect, but came to an end before it reached the middle-aged gentleman at the corner, whose wrath at this succession of injuries was not appeased for many a long day.

It may perhaps be supposed that Mrs. Stanley's trials were over when she quitted the dining-room, but such was by no means the case. The ladies looked gloomy and would not amalgamate. One had caught cold from a draught; another had a spot on her brocade dress; and for both misfortunes the hostess was evidently considered responsible. Then came some visitors who had been asked for the evening, but who, not being perfectly informed of the nature of the entertainment, made their appearance in full ball costume. It is much to be feared that the two dreary quadrilles which were instituted in their honour by the kind assistance of some accommodating parents of families, scarcely rewarded them for the brilliancy of their preparations and the trouble of coming.

No coachmen were made impatient, or their steeds' health endangered, on this particular evening, by unnecessary delays. The more courtly of the guests, on taking leave, muttered something about a delightful evening; but those very persons were afterwards the most vociferous in pronouncing the affair a failure. And a failure it was, as Mrs. Stanley frankly acknowledged to her husband. He behaved nobly on the occasion, and even invited some especial bachelor friends to dinner the following week, to prove his confidence in her. On this occasion the young bride did not disdain counsel and assistance, and the result was a success so complete as to obliterate from every mind but her own all recollection of the mischances connected with her First Dinner Party.

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

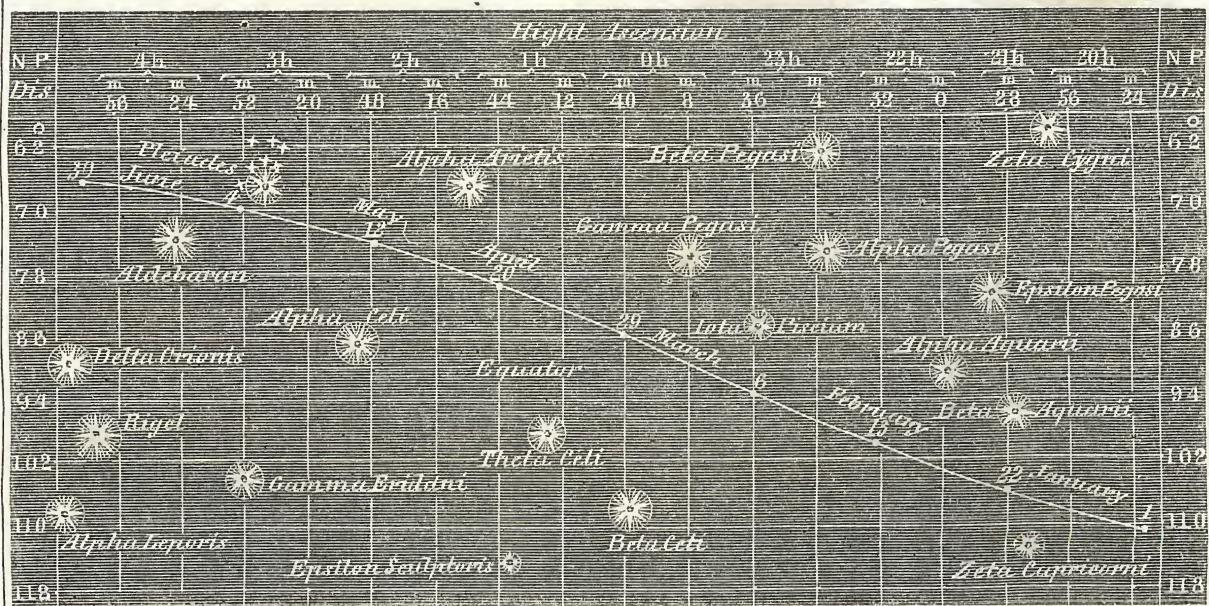
## APRIL.

THE SUN is situated north of the Equator, and is moving northwards; on the 20th, at 4h. 12m. P.M., he passes from the sign Aries (the Ram) into that of Taurus (the Bull); having been in the former sign 30 days 12 hours and 5 minutes. His distance from the Earth, on the evening of the 1st, is 95,000,000

miles, increasing to 95,375,000 by the 15th. He rises on the 8th at the E. by N.; and on the 28th, at the E.N.E. point of the horizon; and sets on the same days at the W. by N. and the W.N.W. points of the horizon.

The Moon, on the 4th, is in the constellation Libra; on the 6th, in Scorpio and Ophiuchus; on the 7th, in Sagittarius; on the 10th, in Capricornus; on the 12th, in Aquarius; on the 13th, in Pisces; and on the 14th, in Cetus. On the

## THE PATH OF MARS FROM JANUARY 1 TO JUNE 30, 1855.



Scale, 24 degrees to one inch.

15th she re-enters Pisces; and is in Aries on the 16th; having again passed through part of Cetus; on the 18th, in Taurus; on the 21st, in Gemini; on the 23rd, in Cancer; on the 25th, in Leo; and on the 27th, in Virgo. She crosses the Equator, going southward, on the 2nd; reaches her extreme south declination at midnight on the 8th; crosses the Equator, going northward, on the 15th; reaches her extreme north declination at midnight on the 21st; and again crosses the Equator, going southward, on the 29th. She is near Spica Virginis on the 2nd and 3rd; Antares on the 7th; Beta Tauri on the 10th; Jupiter on the 12th; Mercury on the 14th; Mars on the 16th; Uranus on the 18th; Venus on the 19th; Saturn on the 20th; Castor and Pollux on the 22nd and 23rd; and Spica Virginis on the 30th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Aquarius till the 3rd; in Pisces till the 14th; in Cetus till the 24th; and again in Pisces till the end of the month. He rises on the 1st at 5h. 2m. A.M.; on the 10th, at 4h. 48m.; on the 20th, at 4h. 33m.; and on the 30th, at 4h. 20m. A.M. These times precede those of the Sun by 30m. on the 1st; decreasing to 17m. by the 30th. He rises near the E. by S. point of the horizon about the beginning of the month; near the E. about the middle; and near the E. by N. point about the end of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; is in Aphelion on the 3rd; and near the Moon on the 14th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in next month.

VENUS is in the constellation Aries till the 14th; and in Taurus to the end of the month. She is an evening star; and sets on the 1st at 8h. 59m. P.M.; on the 9th, at 9h. 24m.; on the 16th, at 9h. 48 P.M.; on the 23rd, at 10h. 10m.; and on

the 30th, at 10h. 28m. P.M. These times follow those of the Sun by 2h. 28m. on the 1st; increasing to 3h. 9m. by the 30th. She sets between the W.N.W. and the N.W. by W. points of the horizon about the middle of the month. She is moving eastward among the stars; and is near Uranus on the 8th; the Pleiades on the 18th; and the Moon on the 19th. On the 26th she is about 14 degrees from Aldebaran. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in last month.

MARS is in the constellation Cetus till the 3rd; in Pisces till the 20th; in Cetus till the 23rd; and in Aries to the end of the month. He rises on the 1st at 5h. 49m. A.M., with the Sun on the 13th and 14th; and at the end of the month at 4h. 29m. A.M.; near the E. by N. point of the horizon, at the beginning of the month; and the E.N.E., at the end of the month. He is not favourably situated for observation. He sooths at an altitude of 43° at the beginning of the month; and of 51° at the end of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; is in conjunction with the Sun on the 10th, and near the Moon on the 16th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the annexed diagram.

JUPITER is in the constellation Capricornus till the 6th, and in Aquarius to the end of the month. He is a morning star—rising on the 1st at 4h. 19m. A.M.; and on the last day at 2h. 35m. A.M., near the E.S.E. point of the horizon. He sooths at an altitude of 25° about the middle of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 12th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

(Continued on page 52.)

| Days of the Month. | TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN. |            |            |          |            |            | JUPITER'S SATELLITES. |                |                |                     | OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON. |                                   |                   |                    |
|--------------------|---|------------|------------|----------|------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
|                    |   |            |            |          |            |            | Eclipses of           |                |                |                     |                                    |                                   |                   |                    |
|                    | Mercury.  | Venus.     | Mars.      | Jupiter. | Saturn.    | Uranus.    | 1st Satellite.        | 2nd Satellite. | 3rd Satellite. | Names of the Stars. | Magni-                             | Times of disappear-               | Around which      | Between what       |
|                    | Morning.  | Afternoon. | Afternoon. | Morning. | Afternoon. | Afternoon. | H. M.                 | H. M.          | H. M.          | D. H. M.            | M.                                 | ance & re-appearance of the Star. | limb of the Moon. | Latitudes visible. |
|                    | H. M.   | H. M.      | H. M.      | H. M.    | H. M.      | H. M.      | D. H. M.              | D. H. M.       | D. H. M.       | 18 4 46 A.M.        | 13 4 35 A.M.                       | 1 5 37 A.M. D.                    | D. H. M.          | D. H. M. & S.      |
| 1                  | 10 24   | 1 42       | 0 12       | 9 8      | 4 2        | 2 12       |                       |                |                |                     |                                    |                                   |                   |                    |
| 6                  | 10 25   | 1 46       | 0 6        | 8 52     | 3 44       | 1 53       |                       |                |                |                     |                                    |                                   |                   |                    |
| 11                 | 10 28   | 1 51       | Morning.   | 8 35     | 3 26       | 1 35       |                       |                |                |                     |                                    |                                   |                   |                    |
| 16                 | 10 35   | 1 56       | 11 55      | 8 19     | 3 9        | 1 16       |                       |                |                |                     |                                    |                                   |                   |                    |
| 21                 | 10 43   | 2 1        | 11 50      | 8 3      | 2 51       | 0 58       |                       |                |                |                     |                                    |                                   |                   |                    |
| 26                 | 10 54   | 2 6        | 11 44      | 7 46     | 2 34       | 0 39       |                       |                |                |                     |                                    |                                   |                   |                    |
| 30                 | 11 5  | 2 11       | 11 40      | 7 33     | 2 20       | 0 24       |                       |                |                |                     |                                    |                                   |                   |                    |

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON,  
And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee)  
or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth  
in each Lunation,

|                    | D. H. M.     | Days of the Month. |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| FULL MOON .. .     | 2 2 28 P.M.  | 1 23h. 2m.         |
| LAST QUARTER .. .  | 9 9 36 P.M.  | 6 23 22            |
| NEW MOON .. .      | 16 3 5 P.M.  | 9 21 3             |
| FIRST QUARTER .. . | 24 5 57 A.M. | 11 23 45           |
| PERIGEE .. .       | 13 8 0 A.M.  | 21 0 10            |
| APOGEE .. .        | 25 5 0 A.M.  | 30 1 37            |

## RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS AT MEAN NOON.

|  | MERCURY.        |                  | VENUS.          |                  | MARS.           |                  | JUPITER.        |                  | SATURN.         |                  | URANUS.         |                  |
|--|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
|  | Right Ascension | North Polar Dis- |
|  | 1               | 23h. 2m.         | 97° 55'         | 2h. 19m.         | 76° 6'          | 0h. 49m.         | 85° 22'         | 21h. 44m.        | 104° 21'        | 4h. 40m.         | 69° 13'         | 2h. 49m.         |
|  | 6               | 23 22            | 96 27           | 2 43             | 73 57           | 1 3              | 83 51           | 21 48            | 104 3           | 4 41             | 69 9            | 2 50             |
|  | 11              | 23 45            | 94 21           | 3 7              | 71 58           | 1 17             | 82 22           | 21 52            | 103 45          | 4 43             | 69 4            | 2 52             |
|  | 16              | 0 11             | 91 41           | 3 32             | 70 11           | 1 31             | 80 55           | 21 55            | 103 28          | 4 46             | 68 59           | 2 53             |
|  | 21              | 0 39             | 88 33           | 3 57             | 68 37           | 1 46             | 79 31           | 21 58            | 103 11          | 4 48             | 68 55           | 2 54             |
|  | 26              | 1 10             | 84 59           | 4 22             | 67 17           | 2 0              | 78 9            | 22 1             | 102 56          | 4 50             | 68 50           | 2 55             |
|  | 30              | 1 37             | 81 54           | 4 42             | 66 23           | 2 11             | 77 6            | 22 4             | 102 44          | 4 52             | 68 46           | 2 56             |



GALLANT DEFENCE OF ST. JEAN D'ACRE, BY SIDNEY SMITH,  
MAY 9TH, 1799.

| Day of Month. | Day of Week. | SUN.                          |    |    |    |                              |                              |                      |    |    |            | MOON.    |            |                              |                              |            |         |    |                      |       |          | DURATION OF MOONLIGHT. |       |          |   |             |   |    |             |      |          |          |            | HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE. |          |            |  | Day of the Year. |
|---------------|--------------|-------------------------------|----|----|----|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|----|----|------------|----------|------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------|---------|----|----------------------|-------|----------|------------------------|-------|----------|---|-------------|---|----|-------------|------|----------|----------|------------|------------------------------|----------|------------|--|------------------|
|               |              | SOUTHS.                       |    |    |    |                              | SETS.                        |                      |    |    |            | RISES.   |            |                              |                              |            | SOUTHS. |    |                      |       |          | SETS.                  | Morn. | O'Clock. | 1 | 2           | 3 | 4  | Moon's Age. | S    | 9        | 10       | 11         | 12                           | Morning. | Afternoon. |  |                  |
|               |              | Rises.                        | M. | M. | M. | S.                           | Deg.                         | Height above horizon |    | M. | M.         | H.       | M.         | Deg.                         | M.                           | M.         | H.      | M. | Height above horizon | Morn. | O'Clock. | 1                      | 2     | 3        | 4 | Moon's Age. | S | 9  | 10          | 11   | 12       | Morning. | Afternoon. |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 1             | Tu           | St. Phil. & St. Jas.          | 4  | 35 | 3  | 0                            | 53 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 7                    | 21 | 6  | 50         | 11       | 49         | 23 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 4                            | 21         |         |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             |      |          |          | 15         | ●                            | 121      |            |  |                  |
| 2             | W            | [Pr. Ar. b., 1850]            | 4  | 33 | 3  | 7                            | 53 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 7                    | 23 | 8  | 10         | Morning. |            |                              | 4                            | 35         |         |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             |      |          |          | 2          | 7                            | 224      |            |  |                  |
| 3             | Th           | Invent. of Cross              | 4  | 31 | 3  | 14                           | 54                           |                      | 7  | 24 | 9          | 35       | 0          | 38                           | 18 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4          | 54      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             |      |          |          |            | 17                           |          | 123        |  |                  |
| 4             | F            | Spica souths 10h 29m P.M.     | 4  | 29 | 3  | 21                           | 54 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 26 | 10         | 57       | 1          | 32                           | 14                           | 5          | 20      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             |      |          |          |            | 18                           |          | 124        |  |                  |
| 5             | S            | Twilight ends 10h 6m          | 4  | 28 | 3  | 27                           | 54 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 27 | Morning.   | 2        | 30         | 11 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 6                            | 0          |         |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             |      |          |          | 19         |                              | 125      |            |  |                  |
| 6             | S            | 4 <sup>TH</sup> S. aft. EAST. | 4  | 26 | 3  | 32                           | 55                           |                      | 7  | 29 | 0          | 10       | 3          | 32                           | 10                           | 6          | 54      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             |      |          |          |            | 20                           |          | 126        |  |                  |
| 7             | M            | [St. J. Evangel.              | 4  | 24 | 3  | 37                           | 55 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 30 | 1          | 7        | 4          | 34                           | 11                           | 8          | 5       |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             |      |          |          | 21         |                              | 127      |            |  |                  |
| 8             | Tu           | East. T. e. Day               | 4  | 22 | 3  | 41                           | 55 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 32 | 1          | 49       | 5          | 34                           | 13 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 9          | 27      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             |      |          | 22       |            | 128                          |          |            |  |                  |
| 9             | W            | Arcturus souths 11h P.M.      | 4  | 21 | 3  | 45                           | 55 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 34 | 2          | 17       | 6          | 30                           | 17 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 10         | 57      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             |      | ●        |          | 129        |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 10            | Th           | Length of day 15h 16m         | 4  | 19 | 3  | 48                           | 56                           |                      | 7  | 35 | 2          | 38       | 7          | 24                           | 23 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | Afternoon. |         |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             |      |          | 24       |            | 130                          |          |            |  |                  |
| 11            | F            | Beta Corvi s. 9h 10m P.M.     | 4  | 17 | 3  | 50                           | 56 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 36 | 2          | 50       | 8          | 13                           | 29 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 1          | 48      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             |      | 25       |          | 131        |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 12            | S            | Day breaks 1h 16m             | 4  | 16 | 3  | 52                           | 56 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 38 | 3          | 7        | 9          | 1                            | 36 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 3          | 11      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             | 26   |          | 132      |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 13            | S            | ROGATION SUN.                 | 4  | 14 | 3  | 53                           | 56 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 39 | 3          | 21       | 9          | 48                           | 43                           | 4          | 33      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             |      | No Tide. | 0        | 133        |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 14            | M            | [Old May-Day]                 | 4  | 12 | 3  | 54                           | 57                           |                      | 7  | 41 | 3          | 36       | 10         | 36                           | 49 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 5          | 56      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             | 27   |          | 134      |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 15            | Tu           | Spica souths 9h 45m P.M.      | 4  | 11 | 3  | 54                           | 57 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 42 | 3          | 51       | 11         | 25                           | 55                           | 7          | 18      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             | 28   |          | 135      |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 16            | W            | Length of night 8h 26m        | 4  | 10 | 3  | 53                           | 57 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> |                      | 7  | 44 | 4          | 12       | Afternoon. | 59 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 8                            | 39         |         |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    | ○           | 1    | 136      |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 17            | Th           | Asc. D. H. Th.                | 4  | 8  | 3  | 52                           | 57 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 45 | 4          | 38       | 1          | 9                            | 63 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 9          | 55      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    | 1           | 2    | 137      |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 18            | F            | Cox. Coroli s. 9h 5m P.M.     | 4  | 7  | 3  | 51                           | 58                           |                      | 7  | 47 | 5          | 13       | 2          | 3                            | 65 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 11         | 1       |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    | 2           | 3    | 138      |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 19            | S            | St. Dunstan                   | 4  | 5  | 3  | 48                           | 58 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 48 | 5          | 58       | 2          | 57                           | 65 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 11         | 55      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    | 3           | 54   | 139      |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 20            | S            | aft. ASC. DAY.                | 4  | 4  | 3  | 46                           | 58 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 49 | 6          | 54       | 3          | 49                           | 64 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | Morning.   |         |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    |             | 4    | 32       | 140      |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 21            | M            | Arcturus souths 10h 13m P.M.  | 4  | 3  | 42 | 58 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                              | 7                    | 51 | 8  | 1          | 4        | 39         | 62 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 0                            | 34         |         |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    | 5           | 10   | 141      |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 22            | Tu           | Beta Librae s. 11h 9m P.M.    | 4  | 1  | 3  | 39                           | 58 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 52 | 9          | 12       | 5          | 26                           | 58 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 1          | 2       |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    | 6           | 52   | 142      |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 23            | W            | Trin. Term beg.               | 4  | 0  | 3  | 44                           | 59                           |                      | 7  | 53 | 10         | 22       | 6          | 10                           | 52 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 1          | 24      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    | 7           | 641  | 143      |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 24            | Th           | Qu. Vict. b., 1819            | 3  | 59 | 3  | 30                           | 59 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 55 | 11         | 35       | 6          | 52                           | 49 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 1          | 39      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    | 7           | 37   | 144      |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 25            | F            | Ps. Hele. b., 1846            | 3  | 58 | 3  | 24                           | 59 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> |                      | 7  | 56 | Afternoon. | 7        | 33         | 43 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 1                            | 53         |         |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   | 9  | 846         | 145  |          |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 26            | S            | Oxford Term ends              | 3  | 57 | 3  | 18                           | 59 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> |                      | 7  | 57 | 1          | 57       | 8          | 14                           | 38                           | 2          | 5       |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   | 10 | 57          | 146  |          |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 27            | S            | WHIT SUNDAY                   | 3  | 56 | 3  | 12                           | 59 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 7  | 59 | 3          | 10       | 8          | 56                           | 32                           | 2          | 16      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   | 11 | 55          | 147  |          |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 28            | M            | Whit Monday                   | 3  | 55 | 3  | 6                            | 60                           |                      | 8  | 0  | 4          | 26       | 9          | 40                           | 26                           | 2          | 28      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   |    | 12          | 1149 | No Tide. |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 29            | Tu           | Whit Tu. res. 1660            | 3  | 54 | 2  | 58                           | 60                           |                      | 8  | 1  | 5          | 46       | 10         | 28                           | 20 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 2          | 39      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   | 13 | 011         | 033  |          |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 30            | W            | Emb. Week begins              | 3  | 53 | 2  | 51                           | 60 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> |                      | 8  | 2  | 7          | 12       | 11         | 21                           | 15 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 2          | 58      |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   | 14 | 051         | 113  |          |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |
| 31            | Th           | Beta Librae s. 10h 34m P.M.   | 3  | 52 | 2  | 43                           | 60 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> |                      | 8  | 3  | 8          | 36       | Morning.   |                              | 3                            | 21         |         |    |                      |       |          |                        |       |          |   |             |   | 1  | 34          | 155  |          |          |            |                              |          |            |  |                  |



NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

Now mighty Nature bounds as from her birth:  
The Sun is in the heavens, and light upon the earth;  
Flowers in the valley, splendour in the beam,  
Health in the gale, and freshness in the stream.

MAY was the great festival of our forefathers—their hearts truly responded to the cheerfulness of nature at this season; for May-Day was a word which awakened all ideas of youth and verdure, and blossoming, and hilarity, and love—

And in the balmy time of May-Day weather,  
Both youth and maiden thought the dart  
Of Love lay rankling in the heart,  
If grazed but by its passing feather.

Homage was paid to Flora in wreaths of her own flowers; and, as Phillips prettily remarks, "her garland does not possess a more charming bloom than the British hedge beauty, the hawthorn (*Crataegus oxyacanthus*); nor do the most luxuriant species of Arabia yield a more grateful perfume. It was appropriated to the chaplet of the Athenian maidens, and composed the *fascæ nupiarum* of the Romans." And, we may add, is still a constant appendage to the cottage porch, and the May-pole garland of the rural population; and, though mingled with richer blooms, still

Silver hawthorn sweetly shows  
Her dewy blossoms, pure as mountain snows;

contrasting them with good effect by the side of the virgin gold globe-flower (*Trollius Europæus*) the dog-violet (*Viola canina*),

Whose looks are like the sky;

and the velvet-green leaves of May's own lilies (*Convallaria majalis*).

Beautiful both in flower and fruit, is the wild hautboy-strawberry (*Fragaria*

*elatior*), one of the wholesome rosaceous family; and equally pretty are the pink flowers and red berries of the cowberry (*Vaccinium vitis idaea*); but perhaps one of our most exquisite wild flowers is the ivy-leaved campanula (*C. hederaea*), excelling in beauty of formation, and delicacy, many a more highly-prized exotic. In May, the sweet woodruff (*Asperula odorata*), with its clear white clusters of starry flowers, and its rings of green leaves, blooms in great profusion around the roots of trees in shady woods; and the fine maiden-hair fern (*Adiantum capillus veneris*) the only species of the genus found in Britain, is to be met with, though in far more circumscribed localities.

Among the plants belonging to the genus *Ophrys*, is one which, when seen for the first time, can scarcely fail to be mistaken for the insect, from its resemblance to which, it takes the name of bee ophrys, or *Ophrys apifera*.

Admire, as close the insect lies,  
Its thin wrought plumo, and honied thigh;  
While on this flow'ret's velvet breast,  
It seems as though 'twere lulled to rest.

Now might its fancied wings unfold,  
Enchained in vegetable gold:  
Think not to set the captive free—  
Tis but the picture of a bee?

An effigy that never deceives the insect itself; for, on a warm day, a number of these busy creatures settle upon it, and rifle its nectary of the sweet juice it so abundantly contains. Then leave it uninjured by the visit.

Cockchafer (*Melolontha vulgaris*) now come forth from the grub state, whence they have received the name of May-bugs. Their harmless vagaries, as if of attack, have also caused them to be called durs, or darers. The spotted burnet-moth (*Anthroceræ filipendula*) also makes its appearance; while the economy of nature in distributing seeds—resembling these winged race of insects, in their mode of sailing—by means of their feathery down, in whatever current of air they may chance to catch, may be remarked in those of "the sunflower of spring," the dandelion, and in the thistle.

## THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

MAY.—THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF PAINTERS.



For three parts of a century, the Royal Academy of Painting has been the leading attraction of the London season. It struggled into existence in the first instance with much difficulty, and had to contend with the chilling blight of public indifference on the one hand, and the resolute hostility of more than one of the most eminent painters of the time, on the other. Hogarth not only refused to belong to it, but discountenanced it in his writings; and Romney could not be persuaded to contribute to it. When the Royal Academy was first opened to the public, it could boast, with the splendid exceptions of Reynolds and Gainsborough, of no contributor whose works were held in the slightest esteem at the present day. The taste for art was indeed at so low an ebb that, throughout London, there did not exist more than three print-sellers. Nor can the Royal Academy claim to have been the first Association of Artists for the purpose of exhibiting their works. Two societies were established in 1761, one occupying the Great Room of the Society of Arts, and the other a Gallery in Spring Gardens: the former ceasing to exist in 1775, and the latter in 1807. To the dissensions of the managers of these societies, was the formation of the Royal Academy principally owing. It is, however, due to them to record that in the course of thirty years they had relieved upwards of three hundred artists, distributed one hundred per annum among charitable institutions, and realised a capital of upwards of four thousand pounds. A dispute between the Directors of the Incorporated Society, led to an application to George III., by Benjamin West, for a charter for a new institution to be entitled the Royal Academy of Painting—which association commenced its profitable and useful career in 1769, in apartments built for an auction room in Pall Mall. It numbered in the first instance, only fifty exhibitors, of whom thirty-three were members. The average number is now from 800 to 900; and that of the works exhibited from 1400 to 1500.

The sole favor ever received from the Crown by the Royal Academy has been a suite of rooms, and the confirmation, by Royal authority, of its academical honours. During its progress, the Royal Academy has expended from four to five hundred thousand pounds in affording relief to decayed artists and their widows, and in providing schools of instruction in the Fine Arts, and professors to instruct them. Whatever, therefore, may have been the errors of its constitution, the services which it has rendered have been exceedingly valuable. Its culminating point, so far as the excellence of its exhibitions are concerned, may be said to have been the period between 1825 and 1835; when a succession of the finest works of the British school were brought into juxtaposition on its walls. Lawrence, Wilkie, Turner, Stothard, Etty, Calcott, Collins, Constable, Howard, Smirke, Fuseli, Shee, Westall, Allan, among painters; and Flaxman and the elder Westmacott, among sculptors, have passed from amongst us; whilst among the living painters whose *chefs-d'œuvre* were exhibited during that interval, were Landseer, Leslie, Miready, Eastlake, Uwins, Stanfield, Pickersgill, Chalon, Danby, and Baily. To supply the places of the vanished stars of the Royal Academy, we have Macilee, Ward, Webster, Cope, Grant, Herbert, Redgrave, Frost, Frit, Elmore, the pre-Raphaelite Millais, and Macdowell.

To the frequenters of the Exhibition of the Royal Academy, it may be scarcely necessary to mention that the institution is composed of forty Royal and twenty-six Associate Academicians, six of whom are engravers, who have been excluded until within these last two years from the higher honours. Five of the Royal Academicians are Professors of Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, Anatomy, and Perspective, all of whom receive annual stipends; as do also the Keeper, Secretary, and Librarian. The Professors of Ancient Literature, and Ancient History, the Secretary of Foreign Correspondence, and the Chaplain (whose priestly offices, excepting to say grace at their annual banquets are never invoked), are all honorary members.

It has been a subject of repeated complaint with the "outsiders," that a considerable portion of the revenue of the Royal Academy is expended in an annual dinner, which is given in the Great Room of the Exhibition on the day succeeding the private view. To this banquet, the Ministers of the day, many of the public functionaries and the leading members of the aristocracy, intermixed with such

commoners as may happen to be extensive patrons of Academical art, are invited—an investment which has always been highly advantageous to the body, and as we think, to the Fine Arts at large. The only literary persons we ever remember to have figured at these dinners were Mr. Rogers, Mr. Moore, and Mr. Dickens. A stray printseller may sometimes be invited, if he have been a large purchaser in the course of the preceding year and is expected to continue one; but this leaven of the aristocratical character of the *réunion* is not of frequent occurrence. Many of the guests have never purchased a picture in their lives, and never intend so to do; but they are at least members of the aristocracy, and manage to repay the obligation in one shape or other. The banquet is laid in the Great Room of the Exhibition: the dull quarter of an hour which usually precedes dinner being relieved by an examination of the pictures by which the admiring if hungry guests are surrounded. The Royal Academicians pride themselves not a little on the age and quality of their wines, on their china, plate, and, indeed, on all the appointments of their table. Complimentary speeches are exchanged, and most of the leading R.A.'s receive in turn their "passing paragraphs of praise." As at a Lord Mayor's Dinner, the Ministers of the day, Whig or Tory, are invariably applauded to the echo, and make in their turn promise of measures calculated to promote the extension of art, which are not always redeemed. This banquet is to the artist what the Booksellers' Trade Sale Dinner is to the booksellers, excepting that it is on a much more sumptuous scale, and the society of a much higher order. In the hilarity of the moment, pictures are purchased, and commissions given to an extent which fully attests the policy of the arrangement. Some few of the visitors, indeed, amply repay the courtesies of which they are the recipients, by the purchase of some important works of art from the walls around them. Such tasteful amateurs as the late Mr. Vernon, Mr. Wells, of Redleaf, Mr. Sheepshanks, Mr. Windus, Mr. Rogers, and others, take their seat at the banquet by prescriptive right, long and gratefully recognised.

A more striking scene than this annual *réunion* presents, can scarcely be conceived. The distinguished company (a combination of rank and intellect), the brilliant arrangements of the table, and the concentration around it of the finest pictorial products of the year, form a *coup d'œil* of unrivalled attraction. Great, however, as have been the advantages of this agreeable assemblage of rank and 'alent, they would be still greater, if the feeling of reciprocity were fully carried out. But there are noblemen and gentlemen of high position and large means, who, whilst they accept annually the costly hospitalities of the Academy, have never been known to purchase, themselves, or to promote the sale of a single work of the British School. Ladies are not included in the dinner invitations, but are eligible for admission to the Private View, which is always considered the most distinguished lounge of the season. The most brilliant beauty and fashion of the day are assembled on such occasions; and have thus an opportunity of examining the respective pictures without being incommoded by the crowd and dust inseparable from a Public Exhibition. The floors are covered with green baize, and the whole aspect of the place is more redolent of repose than on ordinary exhibition days; whilst the artists are all, so to say, on their good behaviour, and await patiently the admiration of the spectator without attempting to extort it. It is, however, dangerous to express an unfavourable opinion above the breath at a Private View, for the painter or sculptor, if not occupied in indicating the lions of the Exhibition to some lady of rank, is nearly certain to be within ear-shot of his picture or statue. Of any new purchase of a man of consequence and wealth, there is sure to be an abundance of admirers, for the pictures, like the jests of the rich, are always successful. The most noticeable men among the artists in the palmy days of Private Views were the courtly Lawrence, the impersonator of graceful adulation, and old-world courtesy; Turner, our English Claude, with the manners, dress, gait, and physiognomy of the steward of a Margate steamer; Howard, the polished gentleman of the old school, with that suavity of manner, and blandness of courtesy, which were his characteristics; Constable, lavish of caustic criticism on his neighbours' pictures, but sensitive to a fault of any unfavourable remark upon his own; Flaxman and Stothard, simple-hearted old men, with their flowing silver locks; Etty, coarse-visaged and plebeian-looking, and strikingly awkward in his gait; Uwins, grave, sententious, and venerable beyond his years; Shee, poet-painter, polished and exuberant in his courtesies; Wilkie, with his slouching walk, and Doric simplicity, stealing now and then an exulting glance at the bulkhead picture (so called, because it occupies the seat of honour at the head of the room, and used in those days to be defended from too close pressure of its admirers by a brass rail); Calcott, with an air of aristocratic assumption; Landseer, leading about the room some lady of high birth, and indicating to her what she is to admire; Leslie, silent and reserved, watching with ill-disguised anxiety the effect produced by his principal picture; Chalon, with refined and almost feminine manners, lisping graceful nothings to some belle of the season; and Collins, noting with delight the popularity of his "Pet Lambs," his "Sea-shores," or his "Rustic Civilities."

Among the privileged orders, not immediately connected with art, who were wont to be invited to the Private View, was the late Charles Mathews, no mean contributor to the enjoyment of the scene, as he mimicked, for the benefit of a few safe friends, the notabilities around him—hitting off his friends Moore, Campbell, and Rogers to the life.

Anon, with the pause of the intervening Sunday, came the Public View, when the hopes or fears of the unprivileged artist were realised, and the precise position of his picture ascertained. As good a one in all probability as the Forty Academicians, after they have helped themselves to the best places (as it is but natural that they should) can afford him. Great will be the complaints which are poured in upon the innocent and unconscious Secretary, and loud and fierce are the denunciations of the "Hanging Committee." To place some pictures out of sight is often the greatest service that can be rendered to an artist, but he cannot always be brought to think so. Then follow the anathemas of excluded aspirants, who can see nothing on the walls half so good as those pictures which have been so ungraciously omitted. The rooms are crowded, the heat most intolerable, and the visitor who desires to catch a sight of the pictures, wisely resolves to come again at a much earlier hour in the morning. The features of Royal Academy Exhibitions may vary, but the usual scene differs but little from that which we have sketched out.

Of the Exhibitions connected with the Fine Arts, which are opened simultaneously with the Royal Academy, it is no part of our present purpose to more than glance at. If wanting in the *détail* of an inauguration dinner, they take care to have their private views and special privileges, and are not deficient in abundant attraction. We may mention among others, the Society of British Artists, the two Societies of Painters in Water Colors, the British Gallery, and the Exhibition of the Works of Amateur Artists, and last, not least, the Exhibition of French Art—to say nothing of a host of Panoramas, Dioramas, Cosmoranmas, and other scenic representations of the kind which usher in the "merry month of May."

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

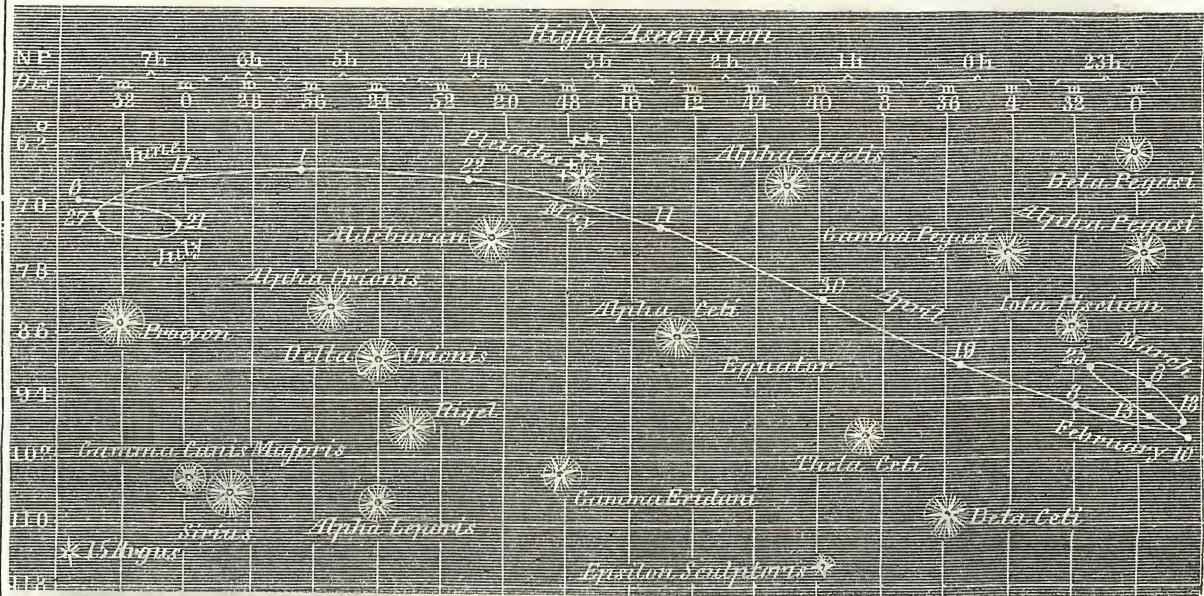
MAY

THE SUN is situated north of the equator, and is moving northwards. On the 21st, at 4h. 17m. p.m., he passes from the sign Taurus (the Bull) into that of Gemini (the Twins), having been in the former sign 31 days and 5 minutes. His distance from the Earth on the 15th is 96,086,600 miles. He rises at the be-

ginning, a little south of the E.N.E. point of the horizon; and on the 26th he rises and sets at the N.E. by N. and the N.W. by N. points of the horizon respectively. On the 16th *the Sun is eclipsed*; for particulars see pages following the calendar.

The Moon on the 1st is in the constellation Libra; on the 3rd in Scorpio; and passing into Ophiuchus on the same day, enters Sagittarius on the 5th; on the

THE PATH OF MERCURY FROM FEBRUARY 10 TO AUGUST 6, 1855.



Scale, 21 degrees to one inch.

7th she is in Capricornus; on the 9th, in Aquarius; on the 11th, in Pisces, having passed through Cetus; and on the 13th is in Pisces again. On the 14th she enters into Aries; on the 15th, into Taurus; on the 18th, into Gemini; on the 20th, into Cancer; on the 22nd, into Leo; on the 25th, into Virgo; on the 29th, into Libra; on the 30th, into Scorpio; and on the 31st, into Ophiuchus. She is about  $11^{\circ}$  south of the Equator at the beginning of the month; is at her extreme south declination on the 6th; is on the Equator on the 12th; is at her extreme north declination on the 19th; is on the Equator on the 26th; and about  $24^{\circ}$  S. at the end of the month. She is near Alpha Librae on the 1st; Antares, on the 3rd; Jupiter, on the 9th; Mars and Uranus, on the 15th; Mercury, on the 16th; Saturn, on the 17th; Venus, on the 19th; Castor and Pollux, on the 20th; Regulus, on the 23rd; Spica Virginis, on the 27th; Alpha Librae, on the 29th; and Antares on the last day. On the 2nd, she is *totally eclipsed*. See the pages following the calendar.

MERCURY is in the constellation Cetus till the 3rd; in Aries till the 14th; and in Taurus till the end of the month. His times of rising precede those of the Sun by 17 minutes on the 1st, decreasing to 0m by the 13th. He sets on the 14th, at 7h. 47m. P.M., being 6 minutes after the Sun; on the 21st, at 8h. 51m., being 1 hour after the Sun; and on the last day, at 9h. 53m. P.M., being 1h. 50m. after the Sun, between the N.W. by W., and the N.W. points of the horizon. He is favourably situated for observation during the latter part of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near Mars on the 8th; Uranus on the 11th; in superior conjunction with the Sun, and about 6 degrees from the Pleiades on the 15th; is near the Moon on the 16th; and in Perihelion on the 17th and the 25th. Both Mercury and Saturn are visible near the N.W. horizon a little after sunset, the latter planet being situated about 3° north of

the former. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the annexed diagram.

VENUS is in the constellation Taurus till the 14th, and in Gemini till the end of the month. She is an evening star; setting on the 1st at 10h. 31m. P.M.; on the 11th, at 10h. 54m.; on the 21st, at 11h. 7m.; and on the last day, at 11h. 12m. P.M. These times follow those of the Sun by 3h. 10m. on the 1st; increasing to 3h. 18m. by the 11th; and decreasing to 3h. 9m. by the 31st. She is very favourably situated for observation throughout the month between the N.W. by W. and the N.W. points of the horizon. She is moving eastward among the stars; is near Saturn on the 2nd, in Perihelion on the 5th, near the Moon on the 19th, and occults Epsilon Geminorum on the 22nd. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in next month.

MARS is in the constellation Aries till the 23rd and in Taurus to the end of the month. He sets on the 1st at 4h. 27m. A.M.; on the 12th, at 3h. 59m.; on the 17th at 3h. 49m.; and, on the 27th, at 3h. 25m. A.M.; near the W.N.W. point of the horizon at the beginning of the month, and the N.W. by W. at the end of the month. He sojourns at an altitude of  $51^{\circ} 20'$  at the beginning of the month; of  $55^{\circ}$  on the 15th; and of  $58^{\circ} 20'$  at the end of the month. He is moving east-ward among the stars; and is near Mercury on the 8th, the Moon on the 15th, and Uranus on the 17th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in last month.

JUPITER is in the constellation Aquarius throughout the month. He is a morning star, rising on the 1st at 2h. 32m. A.M.; on the 16th, at 1h. 37m. A.M.; and on the last day at 42 minutes past midnight, at a point about  $3^{\circ}$  N.

(Continued on page 52)

| TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN. |           |           |         |          |           |           | JUPITER'S SATELLITES.     |                |            | OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON. |            |   |                            |                                 |
|--|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|----------------|------------|------------------------------------|------------|---|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Days of the Month.                                       | Mercury.  | Venus.    | Mars.   | Jupiter. | Saturn.   | Uranus.   | Eclipses of               |                |            | Names of the Stars.                | Magnitude. | Times of disappearance & re-appearance of the Star. | At which limb of the Moon. | Between what Latitudes visible. |
|  | Morning.  | Afternoon | Morning | Morning. | Afternoon | Afternoon | 1st Satel'ito. Disappear. |                |            |                                    |            |   |                            |                                 |
|  | H. M.     | H. M.     | H. M.   | H. M.    | H. M.     | H. M.     | D. H. M.                  |                |            |                                    |            |   |                            |                                 |
| 1  | 11 8      | 2 12      | 11 39   | 7 30     | 2 17      | 0 21      | 4 3                       | 1 A.M.         |            | 19 Scorpii ....                    | 5 {        | D. 9 40 P.M.  | Bright                     | 64° N. &                        |
| 6  | 11 25     | 2 18      | 11 33   | 7 13     | 2 0       | Morning.  | 27                        | 3 11 A.M.      |            |                                    |            | 3 10 41 P.M.  | Dark                       | 8° S.                           |
| 11   | 11 46     | 2 25      | 11 28   | 6 55     | 1 43      | 11 43     | Occultations of           |                |            | 22 Scorpii.....                    | 6 {        | 4 2 58 A.M.   | Bright                     | 65° N. &                        |
| 16   | Afternoon | 2 31      | 11 23   | 6 38     | 1 26      | 11 25     | Isr. Satel'ito.           | 2nd Satellite. | Re-appear. |                                    |            | 4 4 12 A.M.   | Dark                       | 20° N.                          |
| 21   | 0 36      | 2 37      | 11 17   | 6 20     | 1 9       | 11 7      | Ro-appear.                |                |            | B. A. C. 3579..                    | 6 {        | 23 11 21 P.M.                                       | A near apprch.             | 33° N. &                        |
| 26   | 1 0       | 2 43      | 11 12   | 6 2      | 0 52      | 10 48     | 13 3 2 A.M.               | 26             | 1 47 A.M.  |                                    |            |   |                            | 6° S.                           |
| 31   | 1 20      | 2 49      | 11 7    | 5 44     | 0 35      | 10 29     | 29 1 19 A.M.              |                |            |                                    |            |   |                            |                                 |

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON.

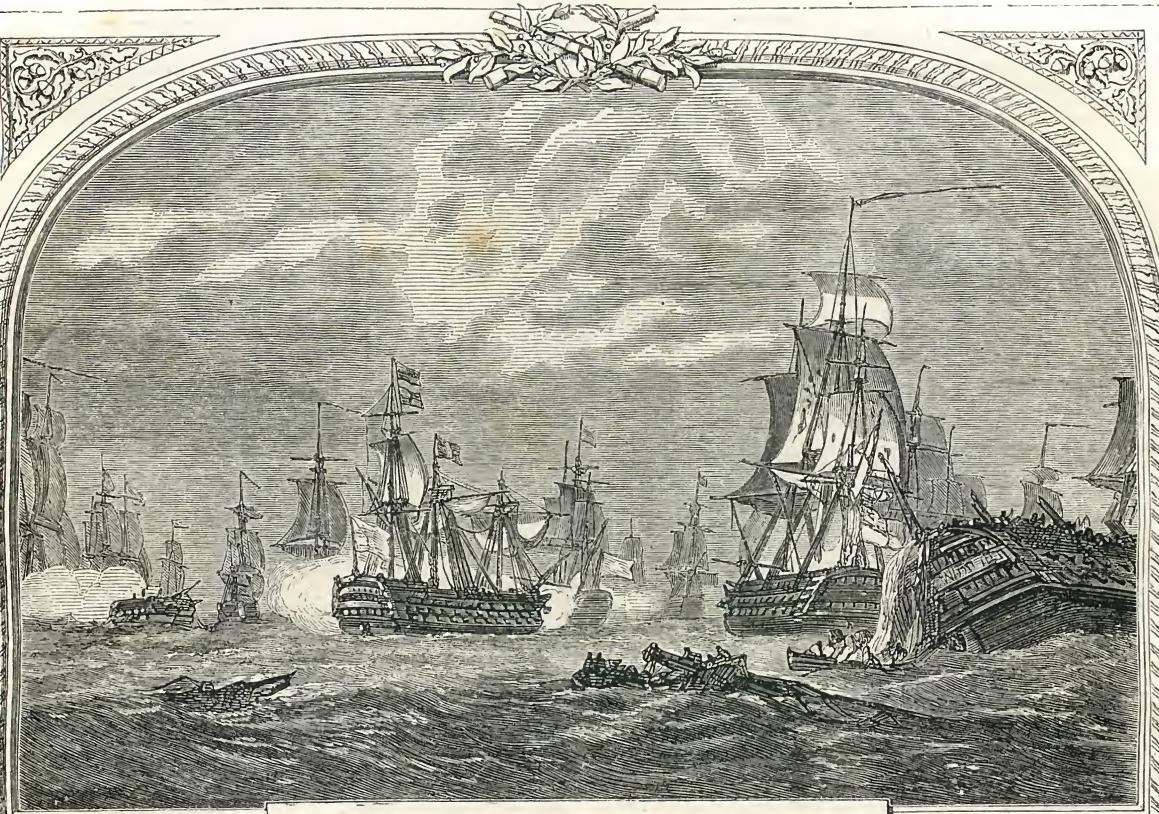
**TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON,**  
And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee)  
or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth

|                  |    |    |     |     |          |      |
|------------------|----|----|-----|-----|----------|------|
| FULL MOON ..     | .. | .. | 2D. | 4H. | 3M.      | A.M. |
| LAST QUARTER ..  | .. | .. | 9   | 3   | 1        | A.M. |
| NEW MOON ..      | .. | .. | 16  | 2   | 13       | A.M. |
| FIRST QUARTER .. | .. | .. | 24  | 0   | 2        | A.M. |
| FULL MOON ..     | .. | .. | 31  | 2   | 48       | P.M. |
| PERIGEE ..       | .. | .. | 9   | 8   | 0        | A.M. |
| APOGEE ..        | .. | .. | 29  | 2   | Midnight |      |

RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS AT MEAN NOON.

| CURRY. |                       | VENUS.          |                       | MARS.           |                       | JUPITER.        |                       | SATURN.         |                       | URANUS.         |                       |
|--------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
|        | North Polar Distance. | Right Ascension | North Polar Distance. |
| 0      | 81° 7'                | 4h. 47m         | 66° 12'               | 2h. 14m         | 76° 51'               | 23h. 4m         | 102° 41'              | 4h. 53m         | 68° 45'               | 2h. 56m         | 73° 34'               |
| 77     | 3 5                   | 5 13            | 65 23                 | 2 28            | 75 36                 | 22 7            | 102 28                | 4 55            | 68 40                 | 2 57            | 73 29                 |
| 73     | 3 5                   | 39 54           | 62 52                 | 2 43            | 74 25                 | 22 9            | 102 16                | 4 58            | 68 35                 | 2 58            | 73 24                 |
| 69     | 28 6                  | 5 64            | 39 39                 | 2 57            | 73 18                 | 22 12           | 102 5                 | 5 0             | 68 31                 | 2 59            | 73 19                 |
| 66     | 42 6                  | 6 31            | 41 42                 | 3 12            | 72 14                 | 22 14           | 101 55                | 5 3             | 68 27                 | 3 1             | 73 14                 |
| 65     | 1 6                   | 57 65           | 3 26                  | 71 15           | 22 15                 | 101 47          | 5 6                   | 68 23           | 3 2                   | 73 10           |                       |
| 64     | 23 7                  | 22 65           | 41 3                  | 3 41            | 70 21                 | 22 17           | 101 40                | 5 8             | 68 19                 | 3               | 73 5                  |

JUNE.



LORD HOWE'S VICTORY, OFF USHANT, JUNE 1ST, 1794.

| Day of Month | Day of Week | SUN.   |       |                                   |                              | MOON.     |           |                                  |                              | DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.       |               |          |           | HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE. |           |                 |  |
|--------------|-------------|--|-------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|----------|-----------|------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|--|
|              |             | ANNIVERSARIES,<br>FESTIVALS,<br>OCCURRENCES, &c. |       | RISES.                            | SOUTHS.                      | RISES.    | SOUTHS.   | Before Sunrise.                  | Moon's                       | Aster.                       | After Sunset. | Morning. | Afternoon | Morning.                     | Afternoon | Day of the Year |  |
|              |             | H. M.  | M. s. | Dec.                              | Height above horizon.        | Afternoon | Morning.  | Height above horizon.            | Morning.                     | 0 O'Clock.                   | 1 2 3         | 4        | 8         | 9 10 11                      | 12        |                 |  |
| 1            | F           | Nicomede   | 3 51  | 2 34 60 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 4         | 9 55      | 0 18                             | 12 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3 53                         |               |          |           | 16                           |           |                 |  |
| 2            | S           | Beta Librae s. 10h 26m P.M.                      | 3 50  | 2 25 60 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 5         | 11 1      | 1 20                             | 10 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 4 43                         |               |          |           | 17                           |           |                 |  |
| 3            | S           | TRINITY SUNDAY                                   | 3 50  | 2 16 60 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 6         | 11 48     | 2 24                             | 10 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 5 50                         |               |          |           | 18                           |           |                 |  |
| 4            | M           | Length of day 16h 18m                            | 3 49  | 2 6 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 8                            | 7         | Morning.  | 3 26                             | 12 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 7 12                         |               |          |           | 19                           |           |                 |  |
| 5            | Tu          | Boniface   | 3 49  | 1 56 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 8         | 0 22      | 4 26                             | 16 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8 42                         |               |          |           | 20                           |           |                 |  |
| 6            | W           | Arcturus souths 9h 10m P.M.                      | 3 48  | 1 46 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 9         | 0 45      | 5 20                             | 21 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 10 11                        |               |          |           | 21                           |           |                 |  |
| 7            | Th          | Corpus Christi                                   | 3 47  | 1 35 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 10        | 1 2       | 6 11                             | 27 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 11 36                        |               |          |           | 23                           |           |                 |  |
| 8            | F           | Alpha Serpentis s. 10h 30m P.M.                  | 3 47  | 1 24 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 11        | 1 16      | 6 59                             | 34 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | Afternoon                    |               |          |           | 24                           |           |                 |  |
| 9            | S           | Beta Scorpii souths 10h 46m P.M.                 | 3 46  | 1 13 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 12        | 1 28      | 7 46                             | 41                           | 2 19                         |               |          |           | 25                           |           |                 |  |
| 10           | S           | 1ST S. aft. TRIN.                                | 3 46  | 1 16 1 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 8                            | 12        | 1 43      | 8 32                             | 47 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3 40                         |               |          |           | 26                           |           |                 |  |
| 11           | M           | St. Barnabas                                     | 3 45  | 0 49 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 13        | 1 59      | 9 20                             | 53 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 5 2                          |               |          |           | 27                           |           |                 |  |
| 12           | Tu          | Trinity Term ends                                | 3 45  | 0 37 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 14        | 2 16      | 10 9                             | 58 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 6 20                         |               |          |           | 28                           |           |                 |  |
| 13           | W           | Antares souths 10h 54m P.M.                      | 3 45  | 0 24 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 15        | 2 39      | 11 0                             | 62                           | 7 38                         |               |          |           | No Tide.                     | 0 27      | 163             |  |
| 14           | Th          | Beta Librae souths 9h 30m P.M.                   | 3 44  | 0 12 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 16        | 3 9       | 11 53                            | 64 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8 47                         |               |          |           | 0 51                         | 1 15      | 164             |  |
| 15           | F           | All Day or Twilight                              | 3 44  | After 12 o'clock.                 | 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8         | 16        | 3 50                             | Afternoon                    | 65 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 9 46          |          |           | 1 38                         | 2 1       | 165             |  |
| 16           | S           | Arcturus souths 9h 31m P.M.                      | 3 44  | 0 14 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 16        | 4 42      | 1 40                             | 65                           | 10 30                        |               |          |           | 2 21                         | 2 43      | 166             |  |
| 17           | S           | 2ND S. aft. TRIN.                                | 3 44  | 0 26 62                           | 8                            | 16        | 5 47      | 2 32                             | 63 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 11 3                         |               |          |           | 3 3                          | 3 22      | 167             |  |
| 18           | M           | Alpha Serpentis s. 9h 51m P.M.                   | 3 44  | 0 39 62                           | 8                            | 17        | 6 56      | 3 20                             | 60                           | 11 27                        |               |          |           | 3 40                         | 3 59      | 168             |  |
| 19           | Tu          | Beta Scorpii souths 10h 7m P.M.                  | 3 44  | 0 52 62                           | 8                            | 18        | 8 8       | 4 55                             | 56                           | 11 45                        |               |          |           | 4 18                         | 4 37      | 169             |  |
| 20           | W           | Q. Vic. Acc., 1837                               | 3 44  | 1 562                             | 8                            | 18        | 9 18      | 4 48                             | 51 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 11 59                        |               |          |           | 4 54                         | 5 14      | 170             |  |
| 21           | Th          | Q. Vic. Proc., 1837                              | 3 44  | 1 19 62                           | 8                            | 18        | 10 29     | 5 28                             | 46                           | Morning.                     |               |          |           | 5 34                         | 5 54      | 171             |  |
| 22           | F           | Antares souths 10h 18m P.M.                      | 3 45  | 1 32 62                           | 8                            | 19        | 11 40     | 6 9 40 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 0 11                         |                              |               |          | 6 16      | 6 38                         | 172       |                 |  |
| 23           | S           | Length of night 7h 26m                           | 3 45  | 1 44 62                           | 8                            | 19        | Afternoon | 6 49                             | 34 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 0 24                         |               |          |           | 7 0                          | 7 23      | 173             |  |
| 24           | S           | 3RD S. aft. TRIN.                                | 3 45  | 1 57 62                           | 8                            | 18        | 2 5       | 7 32                             | 28 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 0 33                         |               |          |           | 7 50                         | 8 18      | 174             |  |
| 25           | M           | [St. J. Bap. Mid. Dny]                           | 3 46  | 2 10 62                           | 8                            | 18        | 3 21      | 8 17                             | 23                           | 0 46                         |               |          |           | 8 52                         | 9 21      | 175             |  |
| 26           | Tu          | Antares souths 10h 3m P.M.                       | 3 46  | 2 23 62                           | 8                            | 18        | 4 42      | 9 7                              | 18                           | 1 0                          |               |          |           | 9 50                         | 10 18     | 176             |  |
| 27           | W           | Alpha Serpentis s. 9h 15m P.M.                   | 3 46  | 2 35 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 18        | 6 9 10    | 2 13 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 1 20                         |                              |               |          | 10 46     | 11 16                        | 177       |                 |  |
| 28           | Th          | Q. Vic. Cro., 1838                               | 3 47  | 2 48 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 18        | 7 30      | 11 2 11                          | 1 47                         |                              |               |          | 11 45     | No Tide.                     | 178       |                 |  |
| 29           | F           | St. Peter  | 3 47  | 3 0 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 8                            | 18        | 8 44      | Morning.                         | 2 30                         |                              |               |          | 0 12      | 0 38                         | 179       |                 |  |
| 30           | S           | Alpha Herculis souths 11h 31m P.M.               | 3 48  | 3 12 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8                            | 18        | 9 41      | 0 7 10 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3 29                         |                              |               |          | 1 52      | 2 15                         | 180       |                 |  |



NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

We tread on flowers, flowers meet our every glance:  
It is the scene, the season of romance,  
The bridal of the earth and sky—

WELCOME once more to "Jolly June, arrayed all in green leaves!" Welcome once more to the month which comes

Half prankt with Spring, with Summer half embrowned,

when all is vigour and activity in the vegetable kingdom, and the most believing worshipper of Nature is almost bewildered at the vast stores of countless treasures she displays.

Fresh and pure is the air, yet of luxurious warmth, and luscious scents from the newly-mown hay and fields of flowering beans, are borne on the "slow wings of the unfeint wind," while

Wound in the hedge-rows eaken boughs,  
The woodbine's tassels float in air,  
And blushing, the uncultured rose,  
Hangs high her graceful blossoms there!

Those pale blossoms, touched so tenderly with a faint red, melting away to pearliness like a pure ocean shell!

The sweet-scented bindweed twines its delicate pink bells around the green wheat stalk, and the great bindweed (*Calystegia sepium*), the flower of a day, unfolds her trumpet-shaped corolla to the rays of the sun; and, like a highly-polished mirror, it conveys as much heat as possible to the interior, while its green leaves and clustering tendrils garland the hedge bank—

Where cinquefoil studded the earth with stars of gold;  
While, from its dwelling by the violet cold,  
With laughing eyes, the coy forget-me-not  
Bids me not heedless pass the hallowed spot.

The young shoots of the bladder campion (*Silene inflata*) spring up in April, and the flower in this month is in bloom. The pale green shoots have a powerful odour of green peas, and are, when blanched, a common dish in some of the Mediterranean islands. One of those "sweet remembrancers which tell how fast the moments fly," is the pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis*)—

That vegetable gem, whose brilliant flower,  
Closes against the approaching shower—

opens in fine weather at eight, and folds up its ruby petals at noon. That more hardy flower, the columbine (*Aquilegia vulgaris*), which, in our gardens, assumes a double form, grows in some of our woods in great profusion, wearing in its single state a garb of blue, pink, purple, or white. "Folly's flower" is so called from the shape of its nectary, which turns over like the caps of the old jesters—a form more observable when the flower is in a wild state. The bitter-sweet, or common nightshade (*Solanum dulcamara*), and the common red-rattle (*Pedicularis sylvatica*), have also curiously-shaped corollas. Amongst so much vegetation, as may be supposed, caterpillars are not idle. Some, as the caterpillar of the privet-hawk moth (*Sphinx ligustris*), confine themselves to a single article of diet; others are less delicate, and devour all sorts of organised matter, varying in size, colour, and appearance as much as in diet. Some are clothed with hair, either plain or arranged in tufts, as in that of the caterpillar of the vapourer moth (*Orygia antiqua*); others being smooth, as in that of the privet-hawk moth. Their pupae are equally varied; one, of the magpie moth (*Abraxas grossularia*), for instance, resembling in appearance the body of a wasp; another, the fruit of the date palm. Among caterpillars, those of the sphinx moths are remarkable for delicacy and even beauty of colouring. That of the privet-hawk moth is pea-green, fading into the most delicate straw colour, and striped with shades of lilac, green, yellow, and white; the horn on the tail is black; but to the touch the creature has a most uncomfortable, cold, and clammy feel.

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

JUNE.—THE BOTANICAL GARDENS.



IT was in the "leafy month of June," some summers ago, that I was invited by Mrs. Arundel Seymour, the most distinguished among the *élite* of my acquaintance, to form one of a little company that had resolved to combine for the better enjoyment of the Rose Fête in the Regent's Park. This distinction would have rendered me a proud man at any time, but at that particular juncture circumstances enhanced its value a thousand fold. It had been my lot to encounter, during a similar expedition, undertaken only a few weeks previously, serious mortification, and, as I then esteemed it, social disgrace; and nothing could be better calculated to efface its memory than a second visit to the same scene, under circumstances so different and so eminently favourable. Having no friend at hand to introduce me gracefully to the reader, and to mention, aside, any little facts concerning my character and antecedents, of which it is desirable he should be informed, I may here casually remark, that, at the period referred to, my two-and-twenty birthday was not long past. I had recently been dismissed from parental supervision and a vicarage in the country to lodgings in London and the control of my own actions; but, in the very face of experiences now to be related, I can hardly boast of having then attained to moral independence by any means proportioned to my physical freedom. I shared largely in the error common to youth, that society judges us by what we do, rather than by what we are, and takes altogether far more note of our proceedings than is really the case. It was my constant care, therefore, to accommodate my doings to its standard of propriety, and more especially to avoid any situation which might chance to draw upon me a shadow of ridicule; for a true enjoyment of the ludicrous in others rendered me in no respect disposed to provide similar gratification for my friends.

Having pleaded guilty to these weaknesses, it may be easily imagined with what unenviable feelings I perused, one bright May morning, a letter from my mother, informing me of the advent to No. 16, Melina-street, Old Kent-road, of two elderly maiden ladies, who claimed kinship with our family, and, worse still, my services as cicerone during their presence in London. These estimable ladies, residing ordinarily in some village, with an unpronounceable name, in the furthest recesses of North Wales, whence they only emerged at rare intervals, it had never been my good fortune to make their personal acquaintance, but imagination found ample basis for conjecture in my mother's underlined postscript. The Misses Lawson were not, she remarked, exactly the kind of persons from whose society a young man would derive personal gratification; but she trusted I would not forget that their relationship and limited means gave them a double claim upon my good offices. After seven years' seclusion, they had accumulated a little fund for a fortnight's pleasure trip to town, and she made it a personal request that I would put myself as far as possible at their disposal, for the better economy of their time and money. This concluding sentence put an end to the vision which had previously floated through my mind of escaping with a call at Melina-place, and a long Monday in the Zoological Gardens; for I felt intuitively that I should scarcely be ambitious of introducing the worthy maidens into a more fashionable throng than is then and there to be met with. But alas! it was evident that filial duty required from me a more serious sacrifice. I lectured myself into a general resolution of heroic behaviour, and then dismissed all thought of the painful details until the proper period for my initiatory visit.

It was no small shock to me to discover that the sisters had a perfect acquaintance with the pleasure-giving resources of London, having made it their business to acquire such information for months previously. I had fully intended to ignore altogether any places of resort which it might seem desirable so to do; assuring myself, in order to stifle the pangs of conscience, that a day in the British Museum, or a steam-boat excursion to Greenwich Hospital, would be the kind of amusement best suited to their habits, tastes, and—to their appearance, I may unconsciously have added. But this plan was entirely neutralized; and I found, to my horror, that a visit to the theatre loomed awfully in the distance, and that nothing short of a convulsion of nature would subvert their resolution to be present, under my escort of course, at the next Botanical Fête—the last words of their Vicar's daughter having been a recommendation to that effect. In vain I remarked on the inconvenience of *al-fresco* entertainments in case of rain; they would take care to go prepared, they rejoined, and the assurance by no means comforted me. The flowers were a failure that season, I rather thought; but, unhappily, it mattered not; for they had always felt assured no rhododendrons in

England would equal those of their friend Squire Owen. Then the crowd would be annoying to them; but, no! human life, responded Miss Lawson, was the most delightful of studies. Thus silenced, I could but consent meekly to obtain tickets, and to call for them, according to order, at an early hour on the following Wednesday. I should undoubtedly have been satisfied to perambulate the world evermore beneath the shelter of an umbrella, if it would but have rained on that particular day. A clear atmosphere and a glorious sun, giving promise of a brilliant and well-attended fête, only rendered my feelings and anticipations more gloomy as I wended my way to the rendezvous. Having been instructed very early in life on the impropriety of personal remarks, I will only hint slightly at the appearance presented by my companions when they entered, in full array, the little sitting-room where I awaited them at the appointed hour. The tall form of the elder sister was clothed in a black satin dress of wholly inadequate length, which she triumphantly informed me had been shortened purposefully that it might encounter with impunity the dirt of the London streets. She wore a bonnet, of which suffice it to say, that it was very unnecessarily enlarged by the addition of a green silk "ugly," and some white drapery, fashioned and embroidered probably in her school days, shrouded her angular form, for which, however, more substantial covering was provided in the shape of a plaid woolen shawl, which lay neatly folded on her arm. Neither this nor a sturdy umbrella, could any persuasion of mine induce her to lay aside; for my unlucky suggestion of the possibility of rain had taken firm possession of her mind, and refused to be dislodged. Although the *tout-ensemble* was not by any means what I could have desired, it was impossible to remain untouched by the affectionate pride with which her sister regarded her, or insensible to the beaming felicity legibly imprinted on both their countenances. Under the influence of it, I charged myself with the large umbrella; and, having fairly started, we were in time deposited at near our place of destination as could be accomplished by the homely medium of an omnibus. We arrived at the entrance to the Gardens as countless carriages were there depositing their gay and elegant freights. Many and loud were the criticisms approving and otherwise, which issued from the lips of my companions, as I hurried them in, meditating the removal of some chairs to the most secluded position I could meet with, and our permanent establishment therein. But Miss Lawson had not reigned for thirty years undisputed monarch of her little domestic kingdom without acquiring a will of her own, and for an hour at least did we traverse the Grand Promenade, in the face of entering crowds, before the idea of repose was entertained for a moment. At length I was permitted to go in quest of seats. But this brought me no comfort, for after various experimental flittings, they were finally established, not in the secluded nook I had so agreeably pictured to myself, but in a position which the sisters joyfully agreed had a good view of everything, and of which I sorrowfully felt, everyone had a good view. There sat they, beating time with conspicuous enthusiasm to the inspiring strains of the music; and there stood I, as though mounting guard in the vicinity, looking, to the best of my ability, as if I did not belong to them, and confirming this assumed independence by occasional *sorries* a few yards in extent, which, however, commonly ended in more complete discomfiture. I was generally recalled by the loud utterance of my Christian name, and followed by an equally ill-modulated, and, to our immediate neighbours, a highly entertaining inquiry whether some lady in gorgeous costume, holding her parasol over her face, might not be her Majesty in private life; or a peaceable old gentleman, endowed with a prominent nose, were not assuredly the Duke of Wellington.

Meantime the sun was shining brightly, gentle breezes rustled in the trees, and silk dresses rustled in unison. A ceaseless procession of elegant forms sauntered past us, leaving behind them the echo of many a merry laugh and tender saying. I could not sympathise in their joy, however, realising as I did nothing but my own position—which, although ever-varying, never seemed to take a turn for the better. As the day advanced the throng increased, and my uneasiness increased with it; constant watchfulness and presence of mind became absolutely necessary; and practice enabled me to "double" at length with all the ingenuity of a hunted hare. So many times did I resort to the expedient of dropping my handkerchief and stooping to recover it, whilst some familiar face was passing by, that my back ached with the exertion; and so often did I cut short my career midway on discovering that the party just before me included a damsel, in whose eyes I had no wish to look ridiculous, that Miss Lawson became actively rebellious. And after all, my artifices availed me nothing, for I was challenged by my fair friend at the very moment I was resisting the importunities of Miss Lawson to accept one of three slices of "home-made cake," which, to my infinite horror, she produced from the recesses of the woolen shawl. Not until the very last visitor had departed from the Gardens did my companions feel that they had had their full money's-worth for their money. Nor did the mortifications of this expedition end with the day. For weeks afterwards my friends mentioned very unnecessarily that they had seen me at the last Botanical Fête—with my mother, gravely supposed the ladies—with my laundress, humorously suggested the gentlemen; and up to the present moment, home-made cake is always pressed upon me at a certain house where I occasionally visit, with a very significant smile.

It may be imagined that after these occurrences Mrs. Seymour's proposal was most welcome and carried consolation to my heart. The party she had formed was unexpected, and, in due time I found myself occupying a seat in an open carriage, opposite a fascinating "country cousin," of quite a different species from my own, and side by side with a man scarcely as well dressed as myself. Could any conjuncture of circumstances be more favourable to happiness? I thought not, as, having secured my pretty companion, and left her *chaperon* to follow with her *vis-à-vis*, I entered the scene of my former troubles. Now indeed was I fully sensible of the cheering influence of the sunshine, the joyous strains of the music, the gay murmur of voices, and the whole spirit of the scene. Now could I lift up my head boldly, challenging recognition, and note the details of what was passing around me—the various classes of society and the different phases of individual character which the occasion had assembled together. The company generally was, I observed, divided into two classes, those to whom a Botanical Fête was merely an object for their afternoon's drive, and with this division I complacently classed myself for the time being; and, secondly, those to whom it is a fete and festival indeed, of rare occurrence, and productive of no mean delight. Amongst the latter number were many forms quaint enough to assure me that I was not the only person who had ever exhibited themselves there in strange company; indeed I now derived considerable entertainment from the observation of one or two individuals whose sensations I could, from my own experience, tolerably well divine. In every respect fortune seemed well disposed to make amends for her former ill treatment of me; and not only were my personal feelings gratified, but my credit was considerably raised by this public appearance as a member of one of the most distinguished-looking groups in the Gardens. In addition, I have only to mention that the uncocomonious *dansante* at Mrs. Seymour's residence, with which the day concluded, formed a striking contrast to the very tame delights of my visit to the Colosseum with the Misses Lawson; and that these two visits to the Botanical Gardens still live in my memory as standing epochs of misery and bliss.

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

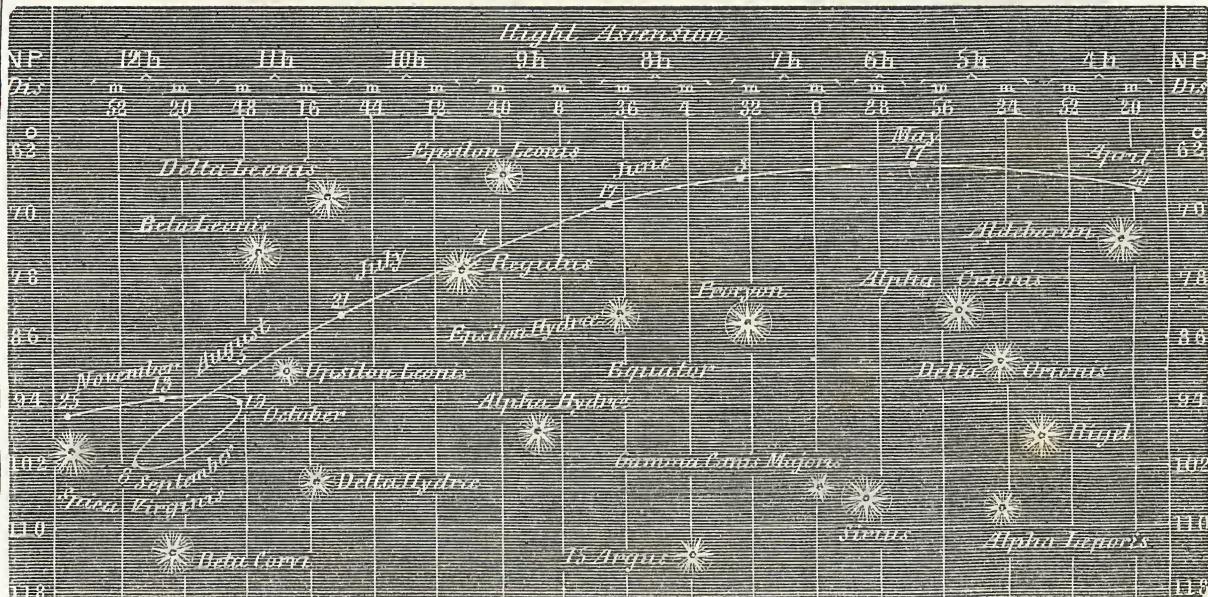
JUNE.

THE SUN is situated north of the Equator, and reaches his extreme north declination on the 22nd. He is in the sign Gemini (The Twins), until the 22nd, having been in that sign 31 days 8 hours and 32 minutes; on that day, at 49 minutes past midnight, he enters the sign Cancer (the Crab), and summer then com-

mences. He is 96,526,000 miles distant from the Earth on the 15th. He rises at the beginning of the month, about  $20^{\circ}$  N. of the E. point of the horizon, and about the 20th, at  $49^{\circ}$  N. of the same point.

The Moon on the 1st is in the constellation Sagittarius; on the 4th in Capricornus; on the 5th in Aquarius; from the 7th to the 10th in Pisces and Cetus; on the 10th she enters Aries, and Taurus on the 12th; Gemini on the

THE PATH OF VENUS FROM APRIL 25 TO NOVEMBER 25, 1855.



Scale, 24 degrees to one inch.

15th; Cancer on the 17th; and Leo on the 18th; on the 21st she enters into Virgo; on the 25th into Libra; on the 27th into Ophiuchus; and, having passed through Scorpio on the same day, is in Sagittarius from the 28th to the end of the month. She reaches her extreme south declination on the 2nd; crosses the Equator, going north, on the 8th; reaches her extreme north declination on the 15th; crosses the Equator, going south, on the 23rd, and reaches her extreme south declination on the 29th. She is near Jupiter on the 6th; Uranus on the 11th; Mars on the 13th; Saturn on the 14th; Mercury on the 16th; and Venus on the 18th; Regulus on the 19th and 20th—being west of the star on the former and east of it on the latter day; near Spica Virginis on the 23rd and 24th; Alpha Libra on the 25th and 26th; and Antares on the 27th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Gemini till the 26th, and in Cancer till the end of the month. He sets on the 1st, at 9h. 55m. P.M.; on the 5th, at 10h. 5m.; on the 10th, at 10h. 8m.; on the 15th, at 10h. P.M.; on the 20th, at 9h. 46m.; on the 25th, at 9h. 25m.; and on the 30th, at 8h. 57m. P.M. These times follow those of the Sun by 1h. 51m. on the 1st; increasing to 1h. 57m. by the 5th; and decreasing to 1h. 44m. by the 15th, to 1h. 7m. by the 25th, and to 39m. by the 30th. He is therefore very favourably situated for observation during the month, between the N.W., and the N.W. by W. points of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars till the 27th, is stationary among them on the 28th, is moving westward from the 29th, is near the Moon on the 16th, and in Aphelion on the 30th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in May.

VENUS is in the constellation Gemini till the 5th; in Cancer till the 25th; and in Leo to the end of the month. She is an evening star; and sets on the 1st at 11h. 11m. P.M., being 3h. 7m. after the Sun; on the 10th, at 11h. 5m.; on the 20th, at 10h. 54m.; and on the 30th, at 10h. 35m. P.M., being 2h. 17m. after the Sun; between the N.W. by W. and the N.W. points of the horizon about the beginning of the month, and near the W.N.W. point about the end of the month. She is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 18th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the annexed diagram.

MARS is in the constellation Taurus throughout the month. He rises on the 6th, at 3h. 3m. A.M.; on the 16th, at 2h. 46m.; and on the 26th, at 2h. 29m. A.M., near the N.E. by E. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $60^{\circ}$ , about the middle of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near the Pleiades on the 3rd, Aldebaran on the 11th, and the Moon on the 13th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in April.

JUPITER is in the constellation Aquarius throughout the month. He rises on the 1st, at 0h. 33m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 1h. 40m. P.M.; and on the 30th, at 10h. 41m. P.M., about  $3^{\circ}$  N. of the E.S.E. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $27^{\circ}$  throughout the month. He is moving eastward among the stars till the 21st; is stationary among them on the 22nd; is moving westward from the 23rd; and is near the Moon on the 6th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in next month.

(Continued on page 52.)

| Days of<br>the Month. | TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHERN, OR<br>PASSING THE MERIDIAN. |           |          |          |           |          | JUPITER'S SATELLITES.        |                              | OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON. |                 |   |                                  |  |
|-----------------------|--|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|---|----------------------------------|--|
|                       |  |           |          |          |           |          | Eclipses of                  |                              | Names of the Stars.                | Magni-<br>tude. | Times of disappear-<br>ance & re-appear-<br>ance of the Star. | At which<br>limb of<br>the Moon. | Between<br>what<br>Latitudes<br>visible. |
|                       | Mercury.   | Venus.    | Mars.    | Jupiter. | Saturn.   | Uranus.  | 1st Satellite.<br>Disappear. | 2nd Satellite.<br>Disappear. |                                    |                 |   |                                  |  |
|                       | Afternoon  | Afternoon | Morning. | Morning. | Afternoon | Morning. | H. M.                        | H. M.                        |                                    |                 | D. H. M.  |                                  |  |
| 1                     | 1 23   | 2 50      | 11 6     | 5 40     | 0 31      | 10 26    | 12 1 27 A.M.                 | 9 1 18 A.M.                  | B. A. C. 6127 ..                   | 5 {             | 2 0 33 A.M.   | Bright                           | 62° N. & 39° N.                          |
| 6                     | 1 37   | 2 55      | 11 1     | 5 22     | 0 14      | 10 7     | 19 3 21 A.M.                 |                              |                                    | 2 {             | 2 1 16 A.M.   | Dark                             |  |
| 11                    | 1 45   | 2 59      | 10 57    | 5 3      | Morning.  | 9 48     | 27 11 44 P.M.                | 12 1 9 A.M.R.                |                                    |                 |   |                                  |  |
| 16                    | 1 47   | 3 3       | 10 52    | 4 44     | 11 41     | 9 30     |                              | 1 3 6 A.M.                   | 19 1 36 A.M.D.                     |                 |   |                                  |  |
| 21                    | 1 42   | 3 3       | 10 47    | 4 25     | 11 24     | 9 11     |                              |                              |                                    |                 |   |                                  |  |
| 26                    | 1 29   | 3 7       | 10 42    | 4 5      | 11 7      | 8 52     |                              |                              |                                    |                 |   |                                  |  |
| 30                    | 1 13   | 3 8       | 10 38    | 3 49     | 10 53     | 8 37     |                              |                              |                                    |                 |   |                                  |  |

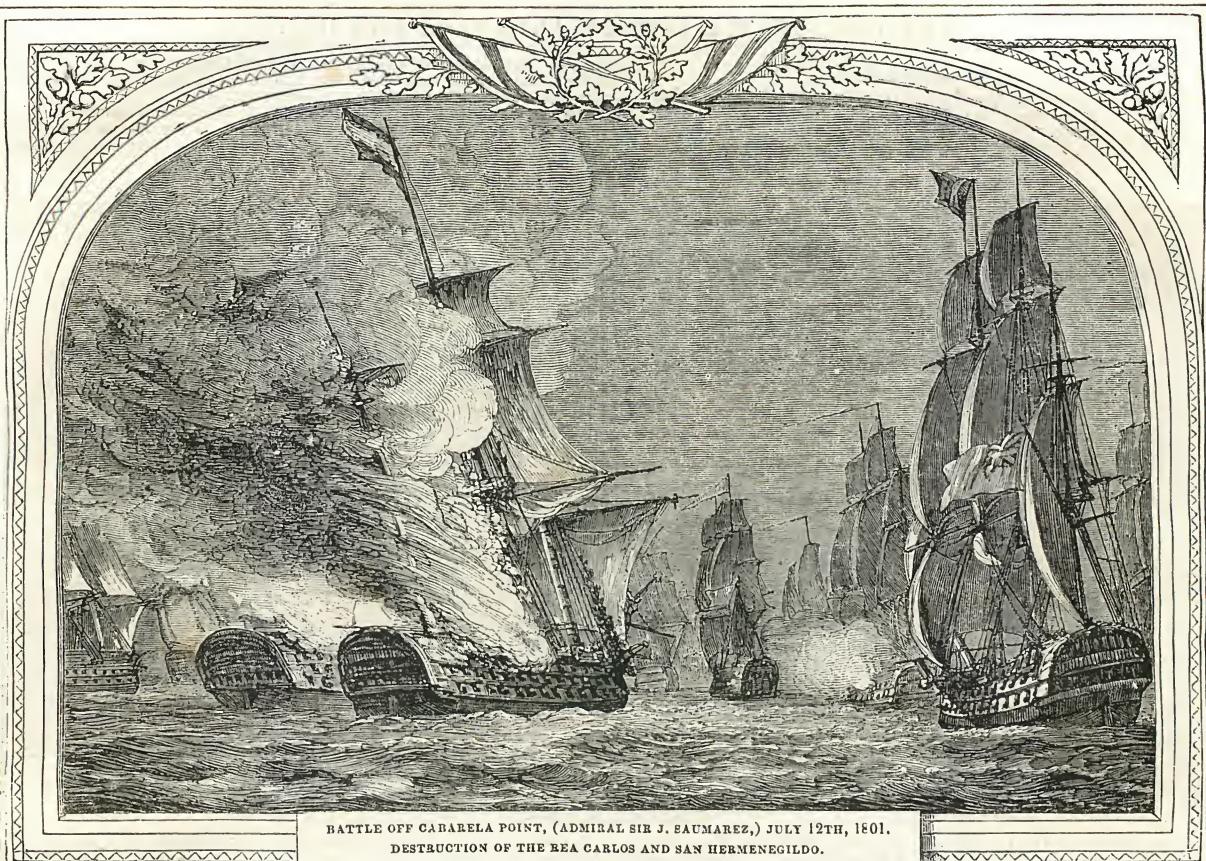
TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON,  
And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee)  
or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth  
in each Lunation.

|               | D. H. M.                |    | Days of the Month. |
|---------------|-------------------------|----|--------------------|
| LAST QUARTER  | .. .. 7 7 48 A.M.       | 1  | 6h. 1m             |
| NEW MOON      | .. .. 14 2 29 P.M.      | 6  | 6 34               |
| FIRST QUARTER | .. .. 22 4 52 P.M.      | 7  | 5 2                |
| FULL MOON     | .. .. 29 11 14 P.M.     | 11 | 65 49              |
| PERIGEE       | .. .. .. 3 at Midnight. | 16 | 8 16               |
| APOGEE        | .. .. .. 19 6 0 P.M.    | 21 | 67 59              |

RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS AT MEAN NOON.

|  | MERCURY.           |                              | VENUS.             |                              | MARS.              |                              | JUPITER.           |                              | SATURN.            |                              | URANUS.            |                              |        |
|--|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--------|
|  | Right<br>Ascension | North<br>Polar Dis-<br>tance |        |
|  | 1                  | 6h. 1m                       | 64° 22'            | 7h. 27m                      | 65° 50'            | 3h. 44m                      | 70° 11'            | 22h. 17m                     | 101° 39'           | 5h. 9m                       | 68° 18'            | 3h. 3m                       | 73° 4' |
|  | 6                  | 6 34                         | 64 47              | 7 52                         | 66 47              | 3 59                         | 69 23              | 22 18                        | 101 34             | 5 12                         | 68 14              | 3 4                          | 73 0   |
|  | 11                 | 7 2                          | 65 49              | 8 16                         | 67 59              | 4 14                         | 68 39              | 22 19                        | 101 31             | 5 15                         | 68 11              | 3 5                          | 72 55  |
|  | 16                 | 7 24                         | 67 13              | 8 39                         | 69 24              | 4 28                         | 68 1               | 22 20                        | 101 29             | 5 17                         | 68 7               | 3 6                          | 72 51  |
|  | 21                 | 7 38                         | 68 48              | 9 2                          | 71 1               | 4 43                         | 67 28              | 22 20                        | 101 30             | 5 20                         | 68 4               | 3 7                          | 72 47  |
|  | 26                 | 7 45                         | 70 20              | 9 23                         | 72 49              | 4 58                         | 67 0               | 22 20                        | 101 32             | 5 23                         | 68 1               | 3 8                          | 72 43  |
|  | 30                 | 7 45                         | 71 24              | 9 40                         | 74 21              | 5 10                         | 66 41              | 22 19                        | 101 35             | 5 25                         | 67 59              | 3 9                          | 72 40  |

JULY.



BATTLE OFF CABARELA POINT, (ADMIRAL SIR J. BAUMAREZ,) JULY 12TH, 1801.  
DESTRUCTION OF THE REA CARLOS AND SAN HERMENEGILDO.

| Day of Month | Day of Week     | SUN.                                       |   |    |         |                   |                      | MOON.   |       |           |         |           |                  | DURATION OF MOONLIGHT. |         |    |          |          |                      |                 |          | HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE. |               |    |    |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
|--------------|-----------------|--|---|----|---------|-------------------|----------------------|---------|-------|-----------|---------|-----------|------------------|------------------------|---------|----|----------|----------|----------------------|-----------------|----------|------------------------------|---------------|----|----|----------|-------------|-----------|---|----|----|----|-------|-------|--|
|              |                 | ANNIVERSARIES, FESTIVALS, OCCURRENCES, &c. |   |    | SOUTHS. |                   |                      | RISSES. |       |           | SOUTHS. |           |                  | SETS.                  |         |    | Morning. |          |                      | Before Sunrise. |          |                              | After Sunset. |    |    | Morning. |             | Afternoon |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
|              |                 |  |   |    | Rises.  | After 12 o'Clock. | Height above horizon | Sets.   | H. M. | M.        | Deg.    | H. M.     | M.               | Deg.                   | H. M.   | M. | Deg.     | Morning. | Height above horizon | Sets.           | Morning. | O'Clock                      | 1             | 2  | 3  | 4        | Moon's Age. | 8         | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | H. M. | H. M. |  |
| 1            | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 4TH S. aft. TRIN.                          | 3 | 49 | 3       | 23                | 61 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 8       | 17    | 10        | 20      | 1         | 12               | 11 $\frac{1}{2}$       | 4       | 49 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    |    |          |             | 17        |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 2            | M               | Visit. B. V. Mary                          | 3 | 49 | 3       | 35                | 61 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 8       | 17    | 10        | 48      | 2         | 14               | 14 $\frac{1}{2}$       | 6       | 18 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    |    |          |             | 18        |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 3            | TU              | Ox. Act.&C. Com.                           | 3 | 50 | 3       | 46                | 61 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 8       | 16    | 11        | 6       | 3         | 13               | 19 $\frac{1}{2}$       | 7       | 51 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    |    |          |             | 19        |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 4            | W               | Tran. St. Martin                           | 3 | 51 | 3       | 57                | 61 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 8       | 16    | 11        | 22      | 4         | 7                | 25 $\frac{1}{2}$       | 9       | 21 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    |    |          | 20          |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 5            | TH              | Antarcs souths 9h 27m p.m.                 | 3 | 52 | 4       | 8                 | 61 $\frac{1}{4}$     | 8       | 16    | 11        | 36      | 4         | 57               | 32 $\frac{1}{4}$       | 10      | 46 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    |    |          | 21          |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 6            | F               | Cam. T. e. Old mids. Tay                   | 3 | 53 | 4       | 18                | 61 $\frac{1}{4}$     | 8       | 15    | 11        | 51      | 5         | 44               | 39                     |         |    |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    |    |          | 22          |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 7            | S               | F. In. due. O. T. e.                       | 3 | 54 | 4       | 28                | 61 $\frac{1}{4}$     | 8       | 15    | Morning.  |         | 6         | 31               | 45 $\frac{1}{2}$       | 1       | 30 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    |    | 23       |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 8            | S               | 5TH S. aft. TRIN.                          | 3 | 55 | 4       | 38                | 61                   | 8       | 14    | 0         | 5       | 7         | 18               | 51 $\frac{1}{2}$       | 2       | 50 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    |    | 24       |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 9            | M               | Alpha Herculis souths 9h 59m p.m.          | 3 | 56 | 4       | 47                | 61                   | 8       | 14    | 0         | 22      | 8         | 6                | 56 $\frac{1}{4}$       | 4       | 10 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    |    | 25       |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 10           | TU              | Length of night 7h 44m                     | 3 | 57 | 4       | 56                | 60 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 8       | 13    | 0         | 44      | 8         | 56               | 61                     | 5       | 26 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    |    | 26       |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 11           | W               | Alpha Ophiuchi souths 10h 11m p.m.         | 3 | 58 | 5       | 5                 | 60 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 8       | 13    | 1         | 10      | 9         | 48               | 64                     | 6       | 38 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    |    | 27       |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 12           | TH              | Alpha Herculis souths 9h 47m p.m.          | 3 | 59 | 5       | 13                | 60 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 8       | 12    | 1         | 48      | 10        | 41               | 65 $\frac{1}{2}$       | 7       | 39 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    |    | 28       |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 13           | F               | Day decreased 23m                          | 4 | 0  | 5       | 20                | 60 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 8       | 11    | 2         | 36      | 11        | 34               | 64 $\frac{1}{2}$       | 8       | 27 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    |    | 29       |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 14           | S               | Alpha Lyre s. 11h 3m p.m.                  | 4 | 1  | 5       | 28                | 60 $\frac{4}{5}$     | 8       | 10    | 3         | 36      | Afternoon | 64               | 9                      | 5       |    |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 30 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 15           | S               | 6TH S. aft. TRIN.                          | 4 | 2  | 5       | 34                | 60                   | 8       | 9     | 4         | 44      | 1         | 15               | 61 $\frac{1}{4}$       | 9       | 30 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 31 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 16           | M               | [St. Swithin                               | 4 | 3  | 5       | 41                | 59 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 8       | 8     | 5         | 55      | 2         | 1                | 56 $\frac{1}{2}$       | 9       | 50 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 32 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 17           | TU              | Alpha Ophiuchi souths 9h 45m p.m.          | 4 | 4  | 5       | 46                | 59 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 8       | 7     | 7         | 7       | 2         | 45               | 53                     | 10      | 5  |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 33 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 18           | W               | Night increased 33m                        | 4 | 5  | 5       | 52                | 59 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 8       | 6     | 8         | 18      | 3         | 26               | 47 $\frac{3}{4}$       | 10      | 18 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 34 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 19           | TH              | Beta Lyrae s. 10h 56m p.m.                 | 4 | 6  | 5       | 56                | 59 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 8       | 5     | 9         | 26      | 4         | 6                | 42 $\frac{1}{4}$       | 10      | 30 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 35 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 20           | F               | Margaret                                   | 4 | 8  | 6       | 0                 | 59 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 8       | 4     | 10        | 36      | 4         | 45               | 36 $\frac{1}{2}$       | 10      | 40 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 36 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 21           | S               | Alpha Lyre souths 10h 36m p.m.             | 4 | 9  | 6       | 4                 | 59                   | 8       | 3     | 11        | 47      | 5         | 26               | 30 $\frac{3}{4}$       | 10      | 51 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 37 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 22           | S               | 7TH S. aft. TRIN.                          | 4 | 10 | 6       | 7                 | 58 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 8       | 2     | Afternoon | 6       | 9         | 25 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 11                     | 4       |    |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               | 38 |    |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 23           | M               | [Magdalene                                 | 4 | 11 | 6       | 9                 | 58 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 8       | 0     | 2         | 19      | 6         | 55               | 20                     | 11      | 20 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 39 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 24           | TU              | Beta Lyre souths 10h 36m p.m.              | 4 | 12 | 6       | 11                | 58 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 7       | 58    | 3         | 41      | 7         | 47               | 15 $\frac{1}{4}$       | 11      | 44 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 40 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 25           | W               | St. James Duch. Cam. b. 1793               | 4 | 14 | 6       | 12                | 58 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 7       | 56    | 5         | 4       | 8         | 43               | 12                     | Morning |    |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 41 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 26           | TH              | St. Anne                                   | 4 | 15 | 6       | 13                | 58                   | 7       | 54    | 6         | 20      | 9         | 45               | 10 $\frac{1}{4}$       | 0       | 17 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 42 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 27           | F               | Alpha Lyre souths 10h 13m p.m.             | 4 | 17 | 6       | 13                | 57 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 7       | 53    | 7         | 26      | 10        | 50               | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$       | 1       | 7  |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 43 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 28           | S               | Twilight ends 11h                          | 4 | 19 | 6       | 12                | 57 $\frac{1}{2}$     | 7       | 51    | 8         | 14      | 11        | 55               | 13                     | 2       | 17 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 44 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 29           | S               | STH S. aft. TRIN.                          | 4 | 21 | 6       | 11                | 57 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 7       | 50    | 8         | 46      | Morning.  |                  |                        | 3       | 44 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 45 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 30           | M               | Length of day 15h 26m                      | 4 | 23 | 6       | 9                 | 57                   | 7       | 49    | 9         | 10      | 0         | 57               | 17 $\frac{1}{4}$       | 5       | 20 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 46 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |
| 31           | TU              | Alpha Aquile souths 11h Sun p.m.           | 4 | 24 | 6       | 6                 | 56 $\frac{3}{4}$     | 7       | 47    | 9         | 27      | 1         | 55               | 23                     | 6       | 55 |          |          |                      |                 |          |                              |               |    | 47 |          |             |           |   |    |    |    |       |       |  |



NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

All things rejoice beneath the Sun—the meads,  
The cornfields, and the murmuring reeds:  
From willow leaves, that glance in the light breeze;  
To the firm foliage of the larger trees.

Now comes Summer, his face embrowned with labour and glowing with brightness; his head crowned with that diadem of majesty, a wreath of the fiercest sun-beams. Now, countless multitudes of insects try their thin wings, and dance in the sultry beam that waked them into life. "Now," as the Indicator remarks, "cattle stand in water, and ducks are envied; now, a walled lane, with dust, and broken bottles, and a brickfield, is a thing not to be thought of; now a green lane, on the contrary, thick set with hedge-row elms, and having the noise of a brook 'rumbling on the pebble stone,' is one of the pleasantest spots in the world."

Now, in the sunshine, dragon-flies,  
Are wondrous to behold—  
With rainbow wings of gayz pearl,  
And bodies blue and gold.

But the brilliant and lively dragon-fly (*Calepteryx virgo*) is as sanguinary as it is beautiful, and pursues with the velocity of a hawk, its prey, the gnats (*Culex*) and throngs of smaller insects; which, in their turn, feed upon victims less than themselves. Such constant destruction to which insects, from their small size, are so permanently liable, and against which their instincts, in all stages of their existence, is so remarkably brought into play, is nevertheless necessary, to preserve a just proportion between all the tribes of the creation.

Amongst the loveliest of July's flowers is the floating white water-lily (*Nymphaea alba*), in its green cradle, broad and bright:

While a star from the depths of each pearly cup—  
A golden star—unto heaven looks up.

And now, too, the heath lands are so beautiful, with their gorgeous array of flowers that we can hardly imagine that the purple bells indicate a poor and barren soil. Over them waves the blue harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*); and spread

beneath, like a pink carpet, blossoms the bog pimpernel (*Anagallis tenella*) July's own flower, the sun-loving rock-rose (*Helianthemum vulgare*), and the queen of the meadows (*Spiraea ulmaria*), with its flowers of "lace-like" embroidery, and rich almond perfume, now open in the sultry noon-tide; while the grasshopper (*Gryllus*), subdued by the heat, ceases his somewhat monotonous chirp, to be again renewed at a cooler period of the day. Not so the harmless little lizard; in the full blaze of noon, when no cloud keeps off the fire of the bright burning sun, does he come out from his hiding-place in the copse. Strange is it that so graceful a little creature should belong to a class of animals, not only differing from every other, but also differing in its members so widely, as to include the bright-eyed lizard, and those Saurian reptiles whose fossil remains excite, on the whole, more wonder at their gigantic proportions, than regret at their extinction.

Other joyous lovers of sunshine are now in perfection. Butterflies "that in the colours of the rainbow live," the painted lady (*Cynthia cardui*), with its marbled under-wings; the chalk-hill blue (*Polyommatus Cerydon*), the silvery-blue Clifden beauty (*Polyommatus Adonis*), the azure-blue (*P. Argiope*), the pearl-bordered fritillary (*Melitaea Euphrusyne*), the wood-white (*Leucophasia sinapis*), and a host of others. What a stupendous wonder is the transformation they have undergone. The same animal crawls in its caterpillar state; rests, or sleeps, in its torpid chrysalis state; and afterwards springs forth into the air, on the feathered wings of the butterfly! May we not perceive with the Italian poet, that "we, too, are caterpillars, born to form the angelic butterfly!"

For some time past, the lady-bird (*Coccinea*) and its lizard-like caterpillar, have been busy in the hop-fields, where they are much respected by the owners, in spite of the disagreeable odour they sometimes emit. The musk-beetle (*Corambyz moschata*), with its formidable-jointed feelers, has a rather more agreeable perfume of musk—at least to those who admire such all-pervading scents. On twigs, or bits of decayed wood, the curious observer may now detect a fungus, called in Scotland siller-cups (*Nidularia campanulata*)—its leathery cup, and the contents, bearing a strong resemblance to a bird's nest.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

JULY.—VILLAGE LIFE.



DELIGHTFUL as it undoubtedly is, towards the close of a London summer to think of nature in her matured beauty as an attainable blessing, there are, perhaps, but few responsible heads of families having made the tour of convenient watering-places, and knowing the outskirts of the Continent by heart, who would not, but for "the children," and "the usages of society," prefer remaining quietly at home in the dull season, to deciding the oft-repeated question of "where shall we go?" So many conflicting advantages are desired that the "happy valley" of Russelas itself could scarcely have combined them. "The air should be bracing on Fanny's account," suggests one parent; "but Charlie cannot bear a cold atmosphere," responds the other: so a happy medium in this respect is indispensable. The situation must be accessible on account of the gentleman, whose business ties are only partially relaxed. Not too accessible, however, resolves the lady—we go out of town for our own benefit, not for that of our acquaintances. Then, without touching on other requirements, the Paradise must have a good family house to let, on terms unprecedentedly low.

All these difficulties it had been my lot to encounter year after year; and at the end of one particular July I had made up my mind that for this season we must be contented with such measure of rurality as could be secured by an occasional trip to Richmond, and an habitual recourse to the convenient privileges of Kensington Gardens and our own square. But circumstances enabled me to reserve this expedient against some period of more urgent need. The head of the family was summoned abroad on a business mission, which, though likely to be of some duration, presented neither excuse nor attraction for a pleasure trip on my part. The children chanced to be invited about the same time to make the acquaintance of some Yorkshire cousins; and thus I was left desolate and almost homeless; for the servants were on board wages, the painters had taken possession, and I was evidently regarded as an intruder in my own house. At this juncture I called to mind an invitation given me years before by a maiden lady, a cousin of my mother's, living in a secluded country village in the west of England. This seemed the very moment to avail myself of it, for the delightful freedom of village life presented strong attractions to my imagination. So, after giving a three days' notice, I packed up my wardrobe, and started by the Great Western Railroad.

On a short branch line to which I was in due time transferred, stands a quiet little Gothic station, called Ashmore. This was my place of destination; and when the train had scurried off, I found myself on the little platform, listening, if the expression be admissible, to the intense silence around. The inquiry of a rustic youth, whether I was the lady for Miss Drysdale's, and the information that he had brought a barrow to take my luggage, comfortably assured me that I was an expected guest; and I started full of pleasant anticipations to traverse the two miles of green lane which lay between the station and the village from which it rather disingenuously took its name. As I had paid several visits there in my juvenile days, the sudden turn which presented certain of its features to my view revealed no unfamiliar scene. There was the triangular green, with the linen laid out to bleach as usual; the little pond with its white railing, and flock of goslings—lineal descendants, no doubt, of those I remembered there fifteen years before. There was the "great house," belonging to the Lord of the Manor, enclosed within its massive iron gates. I could just see the façade of ornamented red brick and the innumerable long narrow casements, gleaming through the thick layers of the cedar branches. So far, Ashmore was unaltered; but, on advancing towards the more frequented regions, I noticed several innovations, to which I could at first scarcely reconcile myself. A small row of staring white houses had sprung up from the enterprise and capital of some village builder. The old barn-like school-house, which had been the *alma mater* of half the village, had given place to a smart Gothic building, bearing the arms of the Ashmores—from which noble house the village derived its name. As some consolation for me, however, there remained many of the antiquated thatched cottages, half buried in the luxuriant vegetation of their little garden-plots; the common pump occupied its wonted position; and the blacksmith and his forge looked as busy and as picturesque as ever. These various observations had tempted me to loiter unconsciously; but, as I happened to glance onward at the square grey tower of the church which faced the village, and seemed to be keeping watch and ward over the morals of its inhabitants, a gleam of sunshine lighted up the golden letters of the clock, and drew my attention to the serious fact that the hands were at seven—an hour later than the Ashmore tea-time, which I remembered to have been, as the laws of the Medes and Persians, unalterable. I hurried up to the range of white frontage, which my cousin and the medical man divided between them, and reached it just as the former, warned of my approach, had issued forth to meet and welcome me.

Having resigned my travelling gear into the care of a neat-handed Phyllis in attendance, I was ushered into the little bay-windowed dining-room, where the tea equipage, arranged on a table exhibiting the utmost polish of which mahogany is susceptible, presented no small attractions to a hungry and weary traveller. The evening hours sped away pleasantly enough in the interchange of news and reminiscences of former days; so much so, indeed, that when the bed-room candlesticks made their appearance at the first stroke of ten, we both expressed our regret, and I boldly suggested, whether, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, half an hour's grace might not be permitted. As there seemed some difficulty about the matter, I did not press my request, but was forthwith conducted in state to my apartment. Although it was a warm evening in July, I shivered involuntarily as I entered; for it was soon evident that the dismal honour of the best bed-room had been bestowed upon me. There was the unmistakeable carved four-post bedstead, with its crimson moresque furniture and ostentatious green and white checked watch-pockets; and that snowy mountain of a bed, sloped and rounded with such marvellous precision, that one felt it ought not to be lightly invaded. There was the magnificent painted chimney-board, which shut out all suspicion of air in summer, and dissipated in winter any visions of a fire to which the polished fire-irons might have given rise in inconsiderate minds. The chimney-piece bore its habitual burden of everlasting flowers and feather-grass at either end, and small shells, arranged with mathematical precision, to form connecting links with the china teapot in the centre; while, from above, the worthy Dr. Drysdale, in the act of writing a prescription, looks down approvingly on them and me. There was scarcely an ornament or an article of useful furniture in the room—from the lofty chest of double drawers, with their brass handles, down to the small selection of the old divines, suspended on shelves against the wall—which did not look like the ghost of a departed age. In due time I managed to compose myself to rest; but the sense of my position scarcely deserted me throughout the night.

After breakfast, on the following morning, I expressed a desire to unpack my boxes, of which, for some mysterious reason, I had not been allowed to have full possession on the preceding evening. My cousin hesitated, and finally requested me, with some embarrassment, "to adjourn," if I did not mind, to the convenient laundry across the yard, for the purpose of opening my wardrobe, as it could then be purified from all London associations before its admission into the "best bed-room." I meekly ventured a few words in defence of London generally, and my property individually, and then adjourned to the regions where the maligned articles were performing quarantine. Much against my will the whole household was assembled to assist; the process was happily brought to a conclusion before dinner-time. I knew that it was the custom of my hostess to repose for a couple of hours after her midday meal, and, therefore, announced my intention of taking a stroll down the village, and renewing my acquaintance with the pretty churchyard, while she did so. But I was met with so pathetic an inquiry what the neighbours would think of her if she suffered me to walk out alone, and so earnest an exhortation to follow her example, that I obediently extended myself on a companion sofa, in a state of hopeless watchfulness, and occupied myself with a leisurely revision of my former views on the freedom of village life. In due time I was released from durance, and we seated ourselves in state at the drawing-room window, for the combined purposes of observation, needle-work, and social converse. After a few general remarks, Miss Drysdale, with an air of considerable gravity, requested my advice on a subject of importance, which, she said, had been pressing heavily upon her mind for many days. Jane, the pretty housemaid, who, as I might have noticed, carried personal neatness to an almost unnecessary extent, had been seen to emerge for three successive Sunday afternoons in the double glories of a parasol and veil. She, herself, she continued, did not approve of either, in reference to the lower classes; but, having no wish to be severe, would be glad if, as the mistress of a family, I would tell her which might be retained with least injury to the character of the establishment. After many pros and cons, it was agreed that a brown parasol, of useful size, but without fringe, might be conceded for Jane's comfort; and this matter settled, we proceeded to our tea, with the conviction that its enjoyment had been fairly and honestly earned. The evening terminated in a walk to the nearest town, and the selection of a new cap, which, in conjunction with Miss Drysdale's best maroon satin, was intended to do honour to any little festivities which might be instituted on my account.

My first day at Ashmore did not close, without some slight misgivings as to my own fitness for the enjoyment of village life and the justice of my views as to liberty; but, in despite of these doubts, some pleasures were in store for me. I had acquaintanceships of former days to renew, and old remembered landmarks to revisit, which revived many an association and memory as brightly in my mind as though they had been but of yesterday. It must not be supposed, however, that on memory alone I was dependent for entertainment. To say nothing of four select tea-drinkings, organized entirely in my honour, we were present at the school festival held in the clergyman's paddock, and at the annual entertainment, given by an amiable middle-aged bachelor in his summer-house, as a compliment to the ladies of the village.

Of course some intervals occurred during which we were thrown upon our own resources, but even then fortune continued to favour me. Preserving time made its appearance, and the business connected with it was extended, by proper management, over four mornings, giving great animation to the household. Then we received two new volumes from the local book society, consisting of a religious novel and travels in the East; which we read aloud alternately at the rate of five pages a day. There was a temperance meeting, too, held in the schoolhouse, which we attended, in common with the rest of the neighbourhood. The excitement of feeling it created was so great, that lecturer, committee, and audience afterwards adjourned to the village pump, to bestow the appropriate tribute of a crown of flowers on the emblem of total abstinence. Occasionally, when in want of a decided change, we walked over to the little post town and improvised a commission at the linendrapers with the view of inspecting his novelties. It is true the same rolls of Welsh flannel, the same squirrel victories, and print dresses always greeted our eyes, but at any rate we had tasted the pleasures of hope on our way thither.

Notwithstanding these varied amusements, I must confess that before the expiration of the month fixed as the period of my stay, I had begun to feel a little weary of this life in miniature, indifferent to the trifling interests around me, and impatient of the small miseries so frequently presented for sympathy. Under these circumstances I resolved to run no risk of tarnishing my character, and wearing out my welcome by a longer stay. The solitary officer at the station saw me once more, and I took my departure from Ashmore, amidst the hospitable regrets of my good cousin. I knew, however, that she would soon have the cares of the washing day to divert her mind (for I must own I had meanly timed my departure, with a view to escape that family epoch); and therefore had no drawback to the satisfaction I felt, at finding myself once more at home—free to come and go, to dine at strange hours or not to dine at all, if I preferred it; in short, to follow the inclination of the moment, unrestrained by the barrier which had so perpetually encircled me at Ashmore, of "what people would think of it."

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

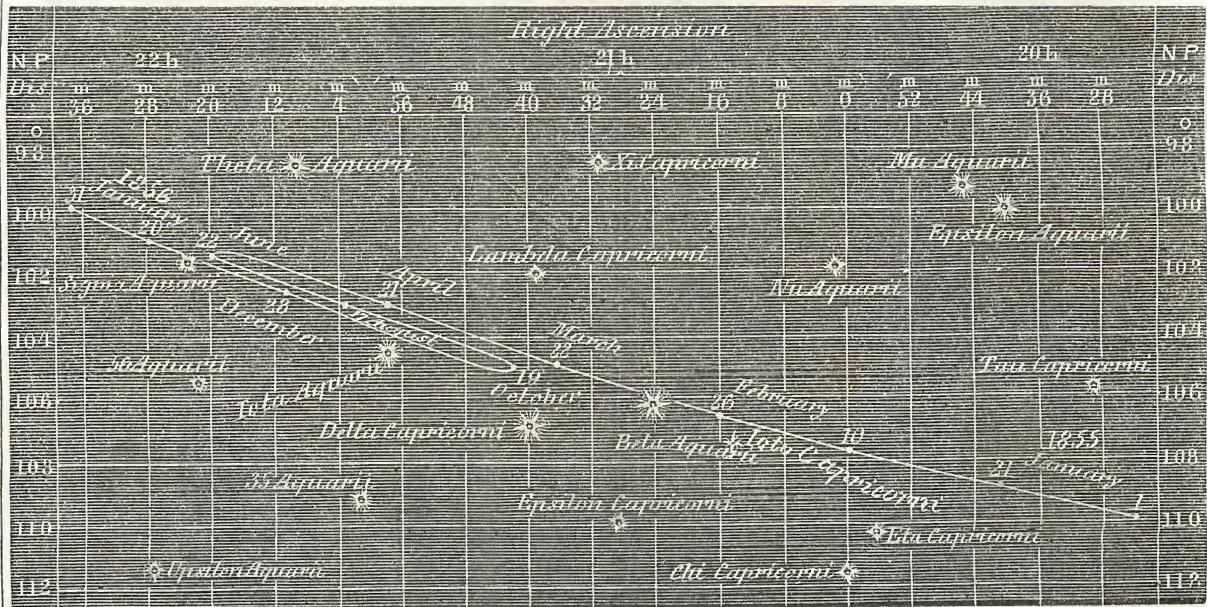
## JULY.

THE SUN is situated north of the Equator, and is moving southwards. On the 23rd, at 11h. 42m. A.M., he enters the sign Leo (the Lion), having been in Cancer (the Crab) 31 days 10 hours and 53 minutes. He is at his greatest distance from the Earth (during the year) on the 4th, being 96,590,500 miles; after

this day his distance decreases, which on the last day is 96,408,000 miles. He sets on the 1st about 3° N. of the N.W. by W.; on the 18th at the N.W. by W. point of the horizon, and at the end of the month about 3° S. of that point.

The Moon on the 1st is in the constellation Capricornus; on the 2nd in Aquarius; on the 4th in Pisces; from the 5th to the 7th in Cetus and Pisces; on the 9th in Taurus; on the 12th in Gemini; on the 14th in Cancer; on the

THE PATH OF JUPITER FROM JANUARY 1, 1855, TO JANUARY 31, 1856.



Scale, 6 degrees to one inch.

6th in Leo; and on the 18th in Virgo; in which constellation she remains till the 22nd, when she enters Libra, and passes into Scorpio on the 24th; on the 25th into Ophiuchus; and on the 26th into Sagittarius. On the 28th she is in Capricornus; on the 30th in Aquarius; and on the 31st in Pisces. She is about 25° south of the Equator at the beginning of the month; is on the Equator at midnight on the 5th; is at her extreme north declination at midnight on the 12th; is on the Equator on the 20th; is at her extreme south declination on the 27th; and is about 12° south of the Equator at the end of the month. She is near Jupiter on the 3rd, Uranus and Aldebaran on the 9th, Saturn on the 11th, Mars on the 12th, Mercury on the 13th, Regulus on the 17th, Venus on the 18th, Spica Virginis on the 21st, Alpha Librae on the 22nd and 23rd, Antares on the 24th and 25th, and Jupiter (a second time this month) on the 30th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Cancer till the 6th, and in Gemini to the end of the month. He rises after the Sun till the 16th, on which day he rises five minutes before him; at 3h. 26m. A.M. on the 21st; at 3h. 2m. on the 26th; and at 2h. 50m. A.M. on the 31st, being 1h. 34m. before the Sun. He sets 34 minutes after the Sun on the 1st, and before him from the 7th. He rises during the month between the E.N.E. and the N.E. by E. points of the horizon, and is favourably situated for observation before sunrise towards the end of the month. He is moving westward among the stars till the 21st; is stationary among them on the 22nd; is moving eastward from the 23rd; is in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the 12th, and near the Moon on the 13th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in May.

VENUS is in the constellation Leo throughout the month. She is an evening

star, setting on the 1st at 10h. 33m. P.M.; on the 10th at 10h. 11m.; on the 20th at 9h. 45m.; and on the 31st at 9h. 12m. P.M. These times follow those of the sun by 2h. 16m. on the 1st, decreasing to 1h. 50m. by the 15th, and to 1h. 25m. by the 31st. She is favourably situated for observation, setting near the W.N.W. point of the horizon about the beginning of the month, and near the W. about the end of the month. She is moving eastward among the stars, is near Regulus at the beginning of the month, and the Moon on the 18th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in last month.

MARS is in the constellation Taurus till the 15th, and in Gemini to the end of the month. He rises on the 1st at 2h. 22m. A.M.; on the 16th at 2h. 2m.; and on the 31st at 1h. 48m. A.M., between the N.E. by E. and the N.E. points of the horizon. He soths at an altitude of about 62° throughout the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near Saturn on the 6th, and the Moon on the 12th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in next month.

JUPITER is in the constellation Aquarius throughout the month. He is visible throughout the night; rising on the 1st at 10h. 37m. P.M.; on the 15th at 9h. 41m.; and on the last day at 8h. 30m. P.M., at a point a little north of the E.S.E. point of the horizon. He soths at an altitude of 26° about the middle of the month. He is moving westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 3rd and 30th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the annexed diagram.

(Continued on page 53.)

| Days of the Month. | TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN. |           |         |          |         |         | JUPITER'S SATELLITES.     |          |          |          |          |          | Eclipses of               |               |              |                     |    |               | OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON. |              |                   |               |        |        |  |  |
|--------------------|---|-----------|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|----|---------------|------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--|--|
|                    |   |           |         |          |         |         | 1st Satellite. Disappear. |          |          |          |          |          | 2nd Satellite. Disappear. |               |              | Names of the Stars. |    |               | Magnitude.                         |              |                   | D. H. M.      |        |        |  |  |
|                    | Mercury.  | Venus.    | Mars.   | Jupiter. | Saturn. | Uranus. | M. H. M.                  | M. H. M. | M. H. M. | M. H. M. | M. H. M. | M. H. M. | D. 13 A.M.                | H. 11 A.M.    | M. 18 A.M.   | A' Tauri .....      | 5  | 10 3 5 A.M.   | Dark                               | 86° N. &     | I. Tauri .....    | 10 3 17 A.M.  | Bright | 1° N.  |  |  |
|                    | Afternoon   | Afternoon | Morning | Morning  | Morning | Morning | H. 6                      | M. 7     | M. 8     | M. 9     | M. 10    | M. 11    | 12 3 32 A.M.              | 10 1 P.M.     | 11 0 55 A.M. | 23 9 26 P.M.        | 5  | 10 3 17 A.M.  | Dark                               | 71° N. &     | Iota Librae ..... | 23 10 38 P.M. | Bright | 29° N. |  |  |
|                    |   |           |         |          |         |         | H. 1                      | M. 8     | M. 9     | M. 10    | M. 11    | M. 12    | 13 10 1 P.M.              | 20 11 55 P.M. | 21 1 49 A.M. | 24 9 37 P.M. D.     | 5  | 26 8 4 P.M.   | Dark                               | 62° N. &     | B. A. C. 6127 ..  | 26 9 2 P.M.   | Bright | 20° N. |  |  |
|                    |   |           |         |          |         |         | H. 6                      | M. 7     | M. 8     | M. 9     | M. 10    | M. 11    | 14 1 25 P.M.              | 21 1 12 A.M.  | 14 1 12 A.M. | 21 2 58 A.M.        | 5  | 29 9 9 P.M.   | Dark                               | 68° N. &     | 35 Capricorni ..  | 29 10 11 P.M. | Bright | 9° N.  |  |  |
|                    |   |           |         |          |         |         | H. 1                      | M. 8     | M. 9     | M. 10    | M. 11    | M. 12    | 15 1 25 P.M.              | 22 1 11 A.M.  | 22 1 11 A.M. | 28 11 24 P.M.       | 6  | 29 10 11 P.M. | Dark                               | 86° N. &     |                   |               |        |        |  |  |
| 1                  | 11  | 16        | 21      | 26       | 31      |         | 1                         | 8        | 3        | 9        | 10       | 23       | 2                         | 43            | 9            | 59                  | 7  | 37            | 5                                  | 10 3 5 A.M.  | Dark              | 86° N. &      |        |        |  |  |
| 6                  | 0   | 5         | 11      | 16       | 21      |         | 0                         | 40       | 3        | 9        | 10       | 23       | 3                         | 24            | 10           | 33                  | 8  | 15            | 5                                  | 10 3 17 A.M. | Bright            | 1° N.         |        |        |  |  |
| 11                 | 7   | 12        | 17      | 22       | 27      |         | 0                         | 7        | 3        | 9        | 10       | 28       | 3                         | 4             | 10           | 16                  | 7  | 56            | 5                                  | 23 9 26 P.M. | Dark              | 71° N. &      |        |        |  |  |
| 16                 | Morning.  | 3         | 7       | 12       | 17      |         | 3                         | 7        | 10       | 23       | 2        | 43       | 9                         | 59            | 7            | 37                  | 5  | 23 10 38 P.M. | Bright                             | 29° N.       |                   |               |        |        |  |  |
| 21                 | 11  | 18        | 23      | 28       | 33      |         | 8                         | 5        | 5        | 10       | 18       | 2        | 22                        | 9             | 42           | 7                   | 18 | 5             | 26 8 4 P.M.                        | Dark         | 62° N. &          |               |        |        |  |  |
| 26                 | 10  | 51        | 15      | 20       | 25      |         | 10                        | 51       | 3        | 2        | 10       | 13       | 2                         | 0             | 9            | 25                  | 6  | 59            | 5                                  | 26 9 2 P.M.  | Bright            | 20° N.        |        |        |  |  |
| 31                 | 10  | 44        | 2       | 59       | 10      | 7       | 1                         | 39       | 9        | 7        | 6        | 40       | 1                         | 39            | 9            | 7                   | 6  | 40            | 6                                  | 29 9 9 P.M.  | Bright            | 68° N. &      |        |        |  |  |

| Days of the Month. | RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS AT MEAN NOON. |                       |                 |                       |                 |                       |                 |                       |                 |                       |                 |                       |                 |                       |                 |                       |                 |                       |     |    |     |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----|----|-----|
|                    | MERCURY.  |                       |                 | VENUS.                |                 |                       | MARS.           |                       |                 | JUPITER.              |                 |                       | SATURN.         |                       |                 | URANUS.               |                 |                       |     |    |     |
|                    | Right Ascension   | North Polar Distance. | Right Ascension | North Polar Distance. | Right Ascension | North Polar Distance. | Right Ascension | North Polar Distance. | Right Ascension | North Polar Distance. | Right Ascension | North Polar Distance. | Right Ascension | North Polar Distance. | Right Ascension | North Polar Distance. | Right Ascension | North Polar Distance. |     |    |     |
| LAST QUARTER       | 6D. 1H. 28M.P.M.  | 7h. 44m               | 71° 37'         | 9h. 45'               | 5h. 13m         | 66° 38'               | 22h. 19m        | 101° 35'              | 5h. 26m         | 67° 59'               | 3h. 9m          | 72° 40'               |                 |                       |                 |                       |                 |                       |     |    |     |
| NEW MOON           | 14  | 4                     | 1 A.M.          | 7                     | 35              | 72                    | 27              | 10                    | 5               | 76                    | 49              | 5                     | 28              | 67                    | 56              | 3                     | 11              | 72                    | 34  |    |     |
| FIRST QUARTER      | 22  | 7                     | 50 A.M.         | 11                    | 7               | 22                    | 72              | 43                    | 10              | 24                    | 78              | 59                    | 5               | 43                    | 66              | 9                     | 57              | 5                     | 31  | 72 | 31  |
| FULL MOON          | 29  | 6                     | 20 A.M.         | 16                    | 7               | 10                    | 72              | 25                    | 10              | 42                    | 81              | 13                    | 5               | 58                    | 66              | 2                     | 22              | 16                    | 101 | 57 | 34  |
| PERIGEE            | 1   | 7                     | 0 P.M.          | 21                    | 7               | 3                     | 71              | 39                    | 11              | 0                     | 83              | 30                    | 6               | 12                    | 66              | 1                     | 22              | 15                    | 102 | 7  | 36  |
| APOGEE             | 17  | 9                     | 0 A.M.          | 26                    | 7               | 5                     | 70              | 40                    | 11              | 17                    | 85              | 49                    | 6               | 27                    | 66              | 4                     | 22              | 13                    | 102 | 18 | 59  |
| PERIGEE            | 30  | 1                     | 0 A.M.          | 31                    | 7               | 19                    | 69              | 47                    | 11              | 33                    | 88              | 7                     | 6               | 41                    | 66              | 13                    | 22              | 11                    | 102 | 30 | 541 |

AUGUST.



THE BATTLE OF THE NILE, AUGUST, 1<sup>ST</sup>, 1798.—BLOWING-UP OF L'ORIENT.

| Day of Month | Day of Week | ANNIVERSARIES,<br>FESTIVALS,<br>OCCURRENCES, &c. | SUN.     |          |                                |          |           |                                  | MOON.                        |          |                      |          |          |                      | DURATION OF MOONLIGHT |          |                |               |            |          | HIGH WATER<br>AT LONDON BRIDGE. |           |          |  | Day of<br>the Year |
|--------------|-------------|--|----------|----------|--------------------------------|----------|-----------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------|----------------|---------------|------------|----------|---------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|--------------------|
|              |             |  | SOUTHS.  |          |                                | RISES.   |           |                                  | SOUTHS.                      |          |                      | RISES.   |          |                      | Before Sunrise,       |          | Moon's<br>Age, | After Sunset. |            | Morning. |                                 | Afternoon |          |  |                    |
|              |             |  | h.<br>m. | m.<br>s. | deg.<br>min.<br>sec.           | h.<br>m. | m.<br>s.  | deg.<br>min.<br>sec.             | h.<br>m.                     | m.<br>s. | deg.<br>min.<br>sec. | h.<br>m. | m.<br>s. | deg.<br>min.<br>sec. | 0<br>1<br>2<br>3<br>4 | O'Clock. | 1011<br>12     | O'Clock.      | 1011<br>12 | h.<br>m. | h.<br>m.                        | h.<br>m.  | h.<br>m. |  |                    |
| 1            | W           | Lammas Day                                       | 4 25     | 6 3      | 56 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 7 46     | 9 42      | 2 48                             | 29 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8 25     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 18       |                                 |           |          |  | 213                |
| 2            | T           | Twilight ends 10h 38m                            | 4 27     | 6 0      | 56 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 7 44     | 9 56      | 3 38                             | 36 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub> | 9 51     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 19       |                                 |           |          |  | 214                |
| 3            | F           | Alpha Aquilæ s. 10h 56m p.m.                     | 4 28     | 5 56     | 56                             | 7 43     | 10 10     | 4 27                             | 43 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 11 14    |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 20       |                                 |           |          |  | 215                |
| 4            | S           | Day decreased 1h 22m                             | 4 29     | 5 51     | 55 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 7 41     | 10 25     | 5 14                             | 50                           |          |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | C        |                                 |           |          |  | 216                |
| 5            | S           | 9TH S. aft. TRIN.                                | 4 31     | 5 45     | 55 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 7 40     | 10 47     | 6 3                              | 55 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 1 58     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 22       |                                 |           |          |  | 217                |
| 6            | M           | Pr. Alf. b., 1844                                | 4 33     | 5 39     | 55 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 7 38     | 11 13     | 6 53                             | 60                           | 3 16     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 23       |                                 |           |          |  | 218                |
| 7            | TU          | Name of Jesus                                    | 4 35     | 5 33     | 55                             | 7 36     | 11 46     | 7 45                             | 63 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 4 32     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 24       |                                 |           |          |  | 219                |
| 8            | W           | Night increased 1h 36m                           | 4 36     | 5 26     | 54 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>   | 7 34     | Morning.  | 8 37                             | 65 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 5 35     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 25       |                                 |           |          |  | 220                |
| 9            | T           | Alpha Lyrae s. 9h 21m p.m.                       | 4 38     | 5 18     | 54 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 7 32     | 0 32      | 9 30                             | 65 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 6 27     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 26       |                                 |           |          |  | 221                |
| 10           | F           | St. Lawrence                                     | 4 39     | 5 10     | 54 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 7 31     | 1 28      | 10 22                            | 64 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 7 7      |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 27       |                                 |           |          |  | 222                |
| 11           | S           | Hf-Qr. d. Dog Days end                           | 4 41     | 5 1 54   | 7 29                           | 2 33     | 11 12     | 62 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>     | 7 35                         |          |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 28       |                                 |           |          |  | 223                |
| 12           | S           | 10TH S. aft. TRIN.                               | 4 43     | 4 52     | 53 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 7 27     | 3 44      | 11 59                            | 58 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 7 57     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | ○        |                                 |           |          |  | 224                |
| 13           | M           | Length of day 14h 41m                            | 4 44     | 4 42     | 53 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 7 25     | 4 55      | Afternoon                        | 54 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8 12     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 1        |                                 |           |          |  | 225                |
| 14           | TU          | Alpha Aquilæ s. 10h 13m p.m.                     | 4 45     | 4 31     | 53                             | 7 23     | 6 8       | 1 25                             | 49 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8 26     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 2        |                                 |           |          |  | 226                |
| 15           | W           | Assumption                                       | 4 46     | 4 20     | 52 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>   | 7 21     | 7 17      | 2 54                             | 44                           | 8 37     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 3        |                                 |           |          |  | 227                |
| 16           | T           | Beta Aquilæ s. 10h 9m p.m.                       | 4 48     | 4 9      | 52 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 7 19     | 8 25      | 2 44                             | 38 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8 48     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 4        |                                 |           |          |  | 228                |
| 17           | F           | Duch. of K.b. 1786                               | 4 49     | 3 57     | 52                             | 7 17     | 9 35      | 3 24                             | 32 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 8 59     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 5        |                                 |           |          |  | 229                |
| 18           | S           | Day breaks 2h 26m                                | 4 51     | 3 44     | 51 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>   | 7 15     | 10 48     | 4 6                              | 26 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 9 10     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 6        |                                 |           |          |  | 230                |
| 19           | S           | 11TH S. aft. TRIN.                               | 4 52     | 3 31     | 51 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 7 13     | Afternoon | 4 50                             | 21 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 9 24     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 7        |                                 |           |          |  | 231                |
| 20           | M           | Alpha Lyrae s. Sh-28m p.m.                       | 4 54     | 3 17     | 51                             | 7 11     | 1 22      | 5 37                             | 16 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 9 44     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 8        |                                 |           |          |  | 232                |
| 21           | TU          | Blackcock sh. beg.                               | 4 55     | 3        | 3 50 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 7 9      | 2 41      | 6 30                             | 13                           | 10 11    |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 9        |                                 |           |          |  | 233                |
| 22           | W           | Length of night 9h 50m                           | 4 57     | 2 48     | 50 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 7 7      | 4 0       | 7 28                             | 10 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 10 52    |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 10       |                                 |           |          |  | 234                |
| 23           | T           | Alpha Cygni s. 10h 29m p.m.                      | 4 59     | 2 33     | 50                             | 7 5      | 5 9       | 8 30                             | 10                           | 11 51    |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 11       |                                 |           |          |  | 235                |
| 24           | F           | St. Bartholomew                                  | 5 0      | 2 18     | 49 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>   | 7 3      | 6 5       | 9 34                             | 11 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | Morning. |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 12       |                                 |           |          |  | 236                |
| 25           | S           | Beta Lyrae s. Sh 31m p.m.                        | 5 2      | 2        | 2 49 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 7 1      | 6 44      | 10 37                            | 14 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 1 9      |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 13       |                                 |           |          |  | 237                |
| 26           | S           | 12TH S. aft. TRIN.                               | 5 3      | 1 45     | 49                             | 6 59     | 7 10      | 11 37                            | 20                           | 2 40     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 14       |                                 |           |          |  | 238                |
| 27           | M           | [P. Alb. b. 1819]                                | 5 5      | 1 29     | 48 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>   | 6 57     | 7 31      | Morning.                         |                              | 4 16     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | ●        |                                 |           |          |  | 239                |
| 28           | TU          | St. Augustine                                    | 5 7      | 1 11     | 48 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 6 55     | 7 47      | 0 33                             | 26 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 5 52     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 16       |                                 |           |          |  | 240                |
| 29           | W           | St. John Bap. beh                                | 5 8      | 0 54     | 48                             | 6 53     | 8 1       | 1 26                             | 33 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 7 23     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 17       |                                 |           |          |  | 241                |
| 30           | T           | Twilight ends 9h                                 | 5 10     | 0 36     | 47 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>   | 6 51     | 8 15      | 2 16                             | 40 <sup>4</sup> <sub>1</sub> | 8 49     |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 18       |                                 |           |          |  | 242                |
| 31           | F           | Beta Aquilæ s. 9h 10m p.m.                       | 5 12     | 0 18     | 47 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>   | 6 48     | 8 31      | 3 6 47 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 10 17                        |          |                      |          |          |                      |                       |          |                |               |            | 19       |                                 |           |          |  | 243                |



NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

There, with its waving blade of green,  
The sea-flag streams through the silent water,  
And the crimson leaf of the dulse is seen,  
To burn like a banner bathed in slaughter.  
There with a light and easy motion,  
The star fishes sweep through the clear green sea,  
And the yellow and scarlet tufts of ocean,  
Are bending like corn on the upland lea.

To those who delight to contemplate the varied forms of animal life, and who, "by enlarging their curiosity after the works of Nature, multiply their inlet to happiness," a more agreeable recreation can scarcely be enjoyed than a morning's ramble over the beautiful gardens of the Zoological Society in the Regent's-park.

Among its more recently added attractions, may now be numbered the Aquatic Vivarium, a building erected by the Society in 1852, for the novel and ingenious purpose of exhibiting, under natural conditions, a curious collection of marine animals; and amongst them those, which, as we draw near the confines of the animal world, we find so closely approaching to vegetables, not only in the simplicity of their structure, but even in their form, colour, and general appearance.

Their compound term, Zoophyte, indicates the union of the animal and vegetable nature, which characterises the whole of these interesting objects. Covering the bed of the ocean in all directions, they present the appearance of vegetation, thickly and elegantly ramified, and that in a manner as various as is exhibited among the plants of the earth.

The Vivarium consists of rows of ponds, enclosed in plate-glass, and occupying two sides of a building of glass and iron, about eighty feet in length. The water is enclosed by walls of plate-glass, each in a single piece. At the bottom of these transparent cells, are shingles, rocks in miniature, living tree-like sea-weed, and corallines; sparkling pebbles, groups of shell-fish, star-fish, sea-anemones, &c. Sea-water is contained in these ponds; but there are also ponds of fresh water,

in which the cray-fish and other river fish appear to live with equal facility. Perch have not only spawned, but swim about among the vegetable part of their habitation as if their glassy prison really was—

A place where joy was known—  
Where golden flash and silver gloam  
Had meaning of their own;  
And here, in lasting durance pent,  
Their silent lives employ  
In something more than dull content,  
Though haply less than joy!

One of the most well-known of those objects, once forming part of that world of mystery hidden beneath the waters of the ocean, is the *Echinus*, sea-urchin, or sea-egg. In its living state, a ball of spines, bearing a strong resemblance to a hedgehog: and when these are removed, by the death of the animal, a most wonderful piece of mechanism meets our view. In the heart-urchin (*Spatangus*), the shell is oval, instead of round. Among the interesting group of objects may be also seen a fine specimen of the zoophyte called Peacock's tail (*Padina pavonia*); and, attached to the stalk of a neighbouring sea-weed, a bunch of marine grapes, about the size of the fruit—black, oval, sharp at one end, and attached to each other by foot-stalks—these are the eggs of the cuttle fish, from which, in due season, the animal will come out, perfectly formed; the *Chiton marginatus*, with its boat-like shell, which it can roll up like the wood-louse it somewhat resembles; the sand-star (*Ophiusa deuterodon*), eggs of the whelk (*Buccinum*), formerly called *B. purpura*, from the rich purple liquor secreted by the animal.

Well deserving its name of Thrift, from thriving in all situations, the *Statice Armeria*, and sea-lavender (*S. limonium*), with perforate yellow wort (*Chlora perforata*), have taken congenially to their new habitats; and, indeed, with all their vegetable and animal companions, seem to prosper as much as the spirited projectors of so valuable and interesting an assemblage could possibly expect.

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

AUGUST.—CLOSE OF THE SEASON.



WHENEVER we are disposed to call up a picture of solitude and desolation, we are apt to speak of the deserts of Arabia, the Cities of the Plain, the ruins of Tadmor, or some other far away scene of proverbial loneliness, where the hand of time or of man has passed roughly over the scene—sparing, however, some few features, calculated to afford a perpetual proverb for the warning or wonder of mankind. But, however emphatic illustrations like these might appear to the majority of minds, there might be found not a few who would fail to recognise in these time-honoured scenes the most perfect types of desolation. They would point rather to more familiar localities, as presenting, under certain circumstances, features far more suggestive of despondency than any that could be found elsewhere.

Many genuine *habitués* and lovers of London there are, whose eyes first opened on its cloudy skies, who made their first acquaintance with nature in its squares and parks, with affections and interests unaccustomed to wander far afield, who would be of this opinion. A youth passed in the shades of old Westminster, or the venerable Charter-house, will prove not unfrequently but the stately passage to the learned Inns of Court, or the unlettered courts of the Royal Exchange. What marvel, then, if, where fame and fortune are most ardently struggled for, and may, perchance, have been won, that the deepest sympathies should take root and flourish? London becomes, in its widest sense, a nursing mother to thousands, who for ten good months in the year demand no fairer scene than that which habitually surrounds them. But should any unusual conjuncture of circumstances deprive them of their ordinary furlough at the close of the Season, neither Tadmor of the Desert, nor the Valley of Desolation itself, would afford a realisation of loneliness half so complete as their own Queen of Cities, beheld in the unaccustomed months of August and September.

None but an habitual resident in the Great City can be fully alive to the wide distinctions of appearance which it presents in the months of May and September. Glance at it on a bright, genial, life-breathing Spring day. Go into the City itself (for we need not limit our observations to the Court end, although there the features of the Season are most clearly perceptible); join the stream of life in its bustling thoroughfares, adventure into its intricate recesses, thread its tortuous streets, penetrate even into its *cults-de-sac*, and there, even there, you shall discover evidence that the crowning month of Spring has arrived.

Faint attempts at garnish and decoration to do "honour to the May" are perceptible even in the crowded haunts of traffic; the painter and whitewasher have done their best to throw lightness and brightness over the surface of things even among the warehouses; whilst the swarming marts display not only their richest stores, but a visible effort to exhibit them in their fairest aspect. A plenitude of good fare abounds on every side; indeed, we might almost fancy, from external symptoms, that gardens and hothouses lurked in the immediate neighbourhoods, and that the sea itself was no further distant than the Thames.

Turn your steps westward, and it will seem as though the great family of mankind were keeping holiday. Carriages are dashing hither and thither, bearing their burthens of elegant idlers on their various time-killing missions, and the causeway is thronged with animated pedestrians. The shops are teeming with customers—the shopmen overflowing with good-humour. The dark months of the year, which seemed so unproductive of everything but ennui, were the seed-time of its richest manufactures; and the spring-time of nature now rejoices over this abundant harvest of the industrial arts.

How earnestly have artist and artisan—illustrious and obscure—been toiling to furnish amusement for the busy idler. Is he a lover of the fine arts—one who appreciates the genius of bygone ages?—the "old masters" are at hand to feed his enthusiasm. If his taste be independent and individual, he will find at the Academy, in the works of his contemporaries, an ample field for the

exercise of his criticism. If he be a votary of St. Cecilia, and a musician of the old school, performances of ancient music refresh his classic taste; if of the new, *matinées* and *sorées musicales* hourly increase his astonishment and admiration of its strange vagaries and achievements. Again, if he be scientific, institutions, royal and otherwise, open their arms to receive him; if philanthropic, numberless benevolent societies claim him as a martyr. He cannot even walk the streets without receiving courteous invitations to witness something new and strange (at a small pecuniary outlay, be it understood). He need not travel to the Antipodes to become personally acquainted with the appearance and habits of its children. Without chart or compass, he may join the toiling multitudes at the Gold Fields; may sun himself in the Garden of the World at Mexico; cool himself again on the summit of Mont Blanc; and, finally, when weary of the wild and wonderful, he has only to turn into the nearest park or garden to be at home with all that is freshest and fairest in the nature, animate and inanimate, of his own favoured country. Pass but a few short weeks of mornings and evenings of festivity and then—

A change comes o'er the spirit of his dream.

That the swallows of society should have taken flight with the season that brought them, is not wonderful, but where are the native inhabitants of the Great City? They too, have departed with their gay visitants. Even the toiling multitude has for the most part succeeded in slipping or lengthening its chain. None remain but a few human zoophytes who can exist only where nature has planted them; and the unwilling and melancholy captives of circumstance and necessity. It is a fact so well known, as almost to become proverbial, that an Englishman has one important advantage over the native of any other clime, inasmuch as whatever misfortune befal him, he can always solace himself with a national grumble! It cannot be denied that, when he is overtaken by the particular misery in question, that of finding himself a prisoner in London, during the months of August and September, this notable specific is largely indulged in; nor does this always prove his only elixir, for a quiet fit of the sullen is apt to supervene, before he is entirely restored to his usual state of calm careless equanimity. His philosophy has probably been taxed rather severely; for having no prospective engagements of his own, he has of course been invited to sympathise with the pleasant anticipations of all his friends. He has been called upon to map out tour after tour, embodying the largest amount of pleasure and number of miles, to be derived from a given amount of time and money. As a reward for his trouble, he has probably been entrusted with a host of commissions, resembling each other only in being of the most unenviable description; and the execution of which (to make things more pleasant) is evidently regarded by his friends, as a salutary and acceptable occupation—for which in his desolate wearisome position he should be duly thankful. Then from pure charity, he had been induced to turn his dining-room into a kind of caravansera for the benefit of such bachelor intimates as had broken up their old quarters, but who had not yet betaken themselves to new ones; and, finally, on their departure, to constitute his rooms into a kind of amateur pantechnicon, for the safe keeping of the special favourites, and not unfrequently of all the properties they leave behind them.

At length the last straggler has departed, and he must face London alone. A few days are devoted to solitary musings; but even the pleasures of sulkiness, so fondly dwelt upon by Charles Lamb, are soon exhausted. Compelled, like an unquiet spirit, to haunt the scenes most familiar to his breathing existence, he adventures into the streets to find the West-end in mourning, and the East-end in stagnant disorder. The houses in his accustomed "beat" present as mournful an appearance as though the plague had waved its dark wing over them. Blinds are papered up, shutters are closed, though the windows themselves have become opaque from want of cleaning. All is vacant and still, where of yore the well-fed porter lounged in his capacious chair, awaiting the thundering knock, and the well-dressed "gentleman" pressed obsequiously forward to announce the welcome advent. Were he rash enough to penetrate into that well-known vestibule—

Its echoes and its empty tread  
Would sound like voices from the dead.

As our friend passes by, a Cerberus, with a key in one hand and a bunch of turnips in the other, looks up from the lower regions, and—despite his lounging gait, mistaking him for an ambulatory vendor of stationery—calls out that nothing is wanted, and retreats again to her den.

With something very like an anathema on his lips, he quickens his pace, and is jostled by a porter laden with grouse, forcibly reminding him of woods and moorlands far away. He is lost in a vision of sylvan glades, purple heather, wild thyme, and bracken; and though he may seem to gaze, sees nothing until he finds himself in the wilderness of Hyde Park. He looks around on what was once bright green sward, peopled with well-dressed pleasure-takers, and groups of fair children, and sees in the distance two or three earnest pedestrians bent on making their way from Rutland Gate to the Marble Arch. In the dusty drive, lately so cool and well watered, a few drowsy-looking carriages creep slowly along, bearing their antiquated freights of ailing dowagers intent on taking the due amount of exercise and draughts of fresh air prescribed by the favourite physician, the daily sight of whose sympathising face they would not exchange for the very best phase of nature. But what has become of those brilliant equipages, teeming with life and such beauty as England only can exhibit? and where is that gallant cavalcade of dashing equestrians that gave spirit and interest to Rotten Row? The scenes remain, but the busy actors have vanished. The trees beside the Serpentine look gloomy and thirsty; its waters, seen through the hazy atmosphere, appear dark and turbid; its shores are tenantless; and, but for the absence of a Charon, thinks our wanderer, one might fancy oneself standing on the very banks of the Styx! He finds no temptation to linger, and wends his way into the suburb of Knightsbridge, wholly uncertain as to his subsequent course. To exhibit himself even to the waiters at his club, is not to be thought of; to dine in his chambers might prove unsatisfactory to his housekeeper and her coadjutor, already on the verge of rebellion at his unseasonable presence in Town; it is a matter of indifference to him where he eats his dinner, but two or three hours must be disposed of in some way. As he walks musingly onwards, he becomes encompassed by street vagabonds of every kind. Inspired at the unexpected sight of a gentlemanly idler, they pursue him with unweary energy, thrusting in his face pincushions, dolls, pocket-books, knives with blades sticking out in every direction; in fact, everything that at this particular time, or any other, would be most inconvenient for him to possess; whilst, no less skilled in tormenting, a host of ragged children running beside him, treading on his toes at every step, and scraping his hands with oyster-shells, keep up a piteous whine of—"Please remember the grotto, sir; 'tis only once a year!" "Hammersmith, Brentford, Kew, Richmond!" shout two rival omnibus cads in his ear, as they almost fight for the possession of the victim; he has not much energy for resistance; and this is at any rate one mode of escape from knives and oysters. So he mounts the box of the nearest conveyance, lights a cigar, and putting an end to Jehu's proffered civilities, gives himself up to reflections on the mutability of all things.

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

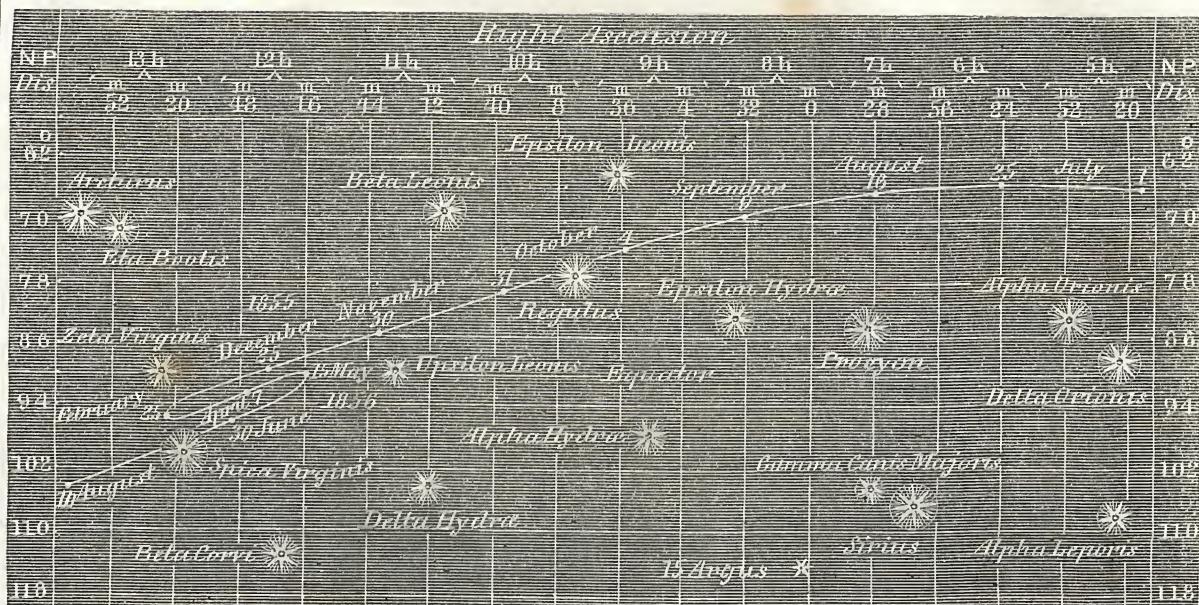
## AUGUST.

THE SUN is situated north of the Equator, and is moving southwards. On the 23rd, at 6h. 16m. P.M., he passes from the sign Leo (the Lion) to that of Virgo (the Virgin), having been in the former sign 31 days 6 hours and 34 minutes. His distance from the Earth, on the 15th, is 96,182,000 miles.

He rises, at the beginning of the month, midway between the N.E. by E. and the E.N.E. points of the horizon; on the 15th, at the E.N.E.; and at the end of the month, about 3° N. of the E. by N. point of the horizon.

The Moon, on the 1st, is in the constellation Cetus; on the 2nd, in Pisces; on the 3rd, in Cetus again; she enters Aries on the 4th; Taurus on the 5th; Gemini on the 8th; Cancer on the 10th; Leo on the 12th; Virgo on the 15th;

## THE PATH OF MARS FROM JULY 1, 1855, TO AUGUST 10, 1856.



Scale, 24 degrees to one inch.

Libra on the 19th, and Scorpio and Ophiuchus on the 21st. On the 22nd she is in Sagittarius; on the 25th, in Capricornus; on the 26th, in Aquarius; and, on the 28th, enters into Pisces; on the 29th, into Cetus; and on the 30th re-enters Pisces; is in Aries on the 31st, having passed through part of Cetus. She crosses the Equator on the 3rd; is at her extreme north declination on the 9th; crosses the Equator on the 16th; is at her extreme south declination on the 23rd; crosses the Equator a third time during the month on the 29th; and is about 12° N. at the end of the month. She is near Uranus and the Pleiades on the 5th; Aldebaran on the 6th; Beta Tauri on the 7th; Saturn on the 8th, Mars on the 9th; Castor and Pollux on the 10th; Mercury on the 11th; Venus on the 16th; Spica Virgins on the 17th and 18th; Antares on the 21st; and Jupiter on the 27th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Gemini till the 7th; in Cancer till the 18th; and in Leo to the end of the month. He rises on the 1st, at 2h. 50m. A.M.; on the 10th, at 3h. 7m.; on the 20th, at 4h. 11m.; and on the 26th, at 5h. 1m. A.M. These times precede those of the Sun by 1h. 45m. on the 1st; decreasing to 1h. 11m. by the 15th; and to 2m. by the 26th. He sets before the Sun till the 19th; with him on the 20th; and 19 minutes after him on the last day. He is favourably situated for observation, before sunrise, at the beginning of the month; rising near the N.E. by E. point of the horizon at the beginning of the month; near the E.N.E. about the 23rd; and near the E. by N. about the end of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 11th; in Perihelion on the 13th; near Regulus on the 24th; and in superior conjunction with the Sun on the 25th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in next month.

VENUS is in the constellation Virgo throughout the month. She is an evening star, and sets on the 1st at 9h. 9m. P.M., being 1h. 23m. after the Sun; on the 16th, at 8h. 16m. P.M.; and on the last day, at 7h. 15m. P.M., being 27 minutes after the Sun, near the W. point of the horizon, about the beginning of the month, and near the W. by S. about the end of the month. She is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 16th; and in Aphelion and at her greatest brilliancy on the 26th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in June.

MARS is in the constellation Gemini till the 25th, and in Cancer to the end of the month. He rises on the 5th at 1h. 46m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 1h. 40m.; and on the 25th, at 1h. 33m. A.M., near the N.E. by E. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of 61° above the middle of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 9th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the annexed diagram.

JUPITER is in the constellation Aquarius throughout the month. He is visible throughout the night; and rises on the 1st, at 8h. 31m. P.M.; on the 11th, at 7h. 50m. P.M.; and on the 21st, at the time when the Sun sets, near the E.S.E. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of 26° at the beginning, decreasing to 24° by the end of the month. He is moving westward among the stars; is in opposition to the Sun on the 21st; and near the Moon on the 27th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in last month.

(Continued on page 53.)

| Days of the Month. | TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHERN, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN. |           |          |           |          |          | JUPITER'S SATELLITES. |                |      |      |    |           | OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON. |      |      |                  |                    |              |   |                           |                                 |    |
|--------------------|---|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------------------|----------------|------|------|----|-----------|------------------------------------|------|------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----|
|                    |   |           |          |           |          |          | Eclipses of           |                |      |      |    |           |                                    |      |      |                  |                    |              |   |                           |                                 |    |
|                    | Mercury.  | Venus.    | Mars.    | Jupiter.  | Saturn.  | Uranus.  | Re-ap. R.             | 1st Satellite. | D.   | R.   | M. | Re-ap. R. | 2nd Satellite.                     | D.   | R.   | M.               | Names of the Stars | Magn.        | Times of disappearance & re-appearance of the Star. | At which limb of the Moon | Between what Latitudes visible. |    |
|                    | Morning.  | Afternoon | Morning. | Morning.  | Morning. | Morning. | D.                    | R.             | M.   | D.   | R. | M.        | D.                                 | R.   | M.   | D.               | R.                 | M.           | D.  | R.                        | M.                              | D. |
| 1                  | 10 44   | 2 58      | 10 6     | 1 34      | 9 4      | 6 36     | 5 10                  | 13             | P.M. | 13   | 0  | 8 A.M.    | 22                                 | 7 13 | P.M. | B. A. C. 7237 .. | 6                  | 25 6 39 P.M. | Dark  | 13° N. & 66° N.           |                                 |    |
| 6                  | 10 50   | 2 53      | 10 1     | 1 12      | 8 46     | 6 17     | 23                    | 0              | 42   | A.M. | R. | 22        | 9 48                               | P.M. | R.   |                  | 4                  | 25 7 44 P.M. | Bright  |                           |                                 |    |
| 11                 | 11 5  | 2 46      | 9 56     | 0 50      | 8 29     | 5 57     | 30                    | 7 11           | P.M. | R.   |    |           |                                    |      |      | Omicron          | 5                  | 31 0 32 A.M. | Bright  | North of 4° N.            |                                 |    |
| 16                 | 11 24   | 2 39      | 9 50     | 0 28      | 8 11     | 5 38     |                       |                |      |      |    |           |                                    |      |      | Piscium          | 5                  | 31 1 40 A.M. | Dark  |                           |                                 |    |
| 21                 | 11 45   | 2 30      | 9 44     | 0 6       | 7 53     | 5 18     |                       |                |      |      |    |           |                                    |      |      |                  |                    |              |   |                           |                                 |    |
| 26                 | Afternoon   | 2 18      | 9 38     | Afternoon | 7 36     | 4 59     | 6 11                  | 0              | 58   | P.M. | D. | 1 18      | 3 A.M.                             | D.   |      |                  |                    |              |   |                           |                                 |    |
| 31                 | 0 20  | 2 5       | 9 32     | 11 17     | 7 18     | 4 39     | 23                    | 9 51           | P.M. | R.   |    |           |                                    |      |      |                  |                    |              |   |                           |                                 |    |

| Days of the Month. | RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS AT MEAN NOON. |           |          |          |          |          | MERCURY.        |                       |                 | VENUS.                |                 |                       | MARS.           |                       |                 | JUPITER.              |                 |                       | SATURN.         |                       |                 | URANUS.               |                 |                       |  |  |  |
|--------------------|---|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|
|                    |   |           |          |          |          |          | Right Ascension | North Polar Distance. |  |  |  |
|                    | Morning.  | Afternoon | Morning. | Morning. | Morning. | Morning. | D.              | H.                    | M.              | D.                    | H.              | M.                    | D.              | H.                    | M.              | D.                    | H.              | M.                    | D.              | H.                    | M.              | D.                    | H.              | M.                    |  |  |  |
| LAST QUARTER       | ..  | ..        | 4 9      | 21       | P.M.     | 1        | 7h. 22m         | 69° 39'               | 11h. 36m        | 88° 35'               | 6h. 44m         | 66° 15'               | 22h. 11m        | 102° 33'              | 5h. 41m         | 67° 48'               | 3h. 13m         | 72° 24'               |                 |                       |                 |                       |                 |                       |  |  |  |
| NEW MOON           | ..  | ..        | 12 6     | 52       | P.M.     | 11       | 7 48            | 6                     | 21              | 51                    | 6 59            | 6 30                  | 22              | 8                     | 102 46          | 5 44                  | 67 47           | 3 13                  | 72 23           |                       |                 |                       |                 |                       |  |  |  |
| FIRST QUARTER      | ..  | ..        | 20 8     | 34       | P.M.     | 16       | 9 2             | 71                    | 40              | 12                    | 16              | 9 5                   | 7 27            | 67 13                 | 22              | 4                     | 103 14          | 5 48                  | 67 46           | 3 14                  | 72 21           |                       |                 |                       |  |  |  |
| FULL MOON          | ..  | ..        | 27 1     | 21       | P.M.     | 21       | 9 42            | 74                    | 22              | 12                    | 27              | 9 7                   | 8 41            | 67 40                 | 22              | 1                     | 103 28          | 5 50                  | 67 46           | 3 14                  | 72 20           |                       |                 |                       |  |  |  |
| APOGEE             | ..  | ..        | 13 4     | 0        | P.M.     | 26       | 10 20           | 77                    | 45              | 12                    | 35              | 98 56                 | 7 55            | 68 12                 | 21              | 58                    | 103 42          | 5 52                  | 67 45           | 3 14                  | 72 20           |                       |                 |                       |  |  |  |
| PERIGEE            | ..  | ..        | 27 11    | 0        | A.M.     | 31       | 10 56           | 81                    | 31              | 12                    | 42              | 100 30                | 8 8             | 68 48                 | 21              | 56                    | 103 55          | 5 53                  | 67 45           | 3 14                  | 72 20           |                       |                 |                       |  |  |  |

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON,  
And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee)  
or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth  
in each Lunation.

SEPTEMBER.



BATTLE OF ASSAYE, (WELLESLEY,) SEPTEMBER 23RD, 1803.

| Day of Month | Day of Week | ANNIVERSARIES,<br>FESTIVALS,<br>OCCURRENCES, &c. | SUN.   |                                   |         |           | MOON.     |                              |           |       | DURATION OF MOONLIGHT. |                |                       |                | HIGH WATER<br>AT LONDON BRIDGE. |          |           |          | Day of<br>the Year. |
|--------------|-------------|--|--------|-----------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|-----------|-------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|---------------------|
|              |             |  | RISES. | Before 12<br>o'Clock              | SOUTHS. | SETS.     | RISES.    | Afternoon                    | SOUTHS.   | SETS. | Morning.               | Before Sunrise | O'Clock.<br>0 2 3 4 5 | Moon's<br>Ase. | After Sunset.                   | Morning. | Afternoon |          |                     |
| 1            | S           | Giles. Part, and Bust shooting begins            | 5 13   | 0 1 47                            | 6 46    | 8 50      | 3 56      | 53 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 11 41     |       |                        |                | 20                    |                |                                 |          | 5 11      | 5 31     | 244                 |
| 2            | S           | 13TH S.aft. TRIN.                                | 5 15   | 0 20 46 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 6 44    | 9 11      | 4 47      | 58 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> |           |       |                        |                | 21                    |                |                                 |          | 5 51      | 6 12     | 245                 |
| 3            | M           | [Lond. bt. 1666                                  | 5 16   | 0 39 46 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 6 42    | 9 44      | 5 39      | 62 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 2 21      |       |                        |                | ●                     |                |                                 |          | 6 32      | 6 55     | 246                 |
| 4            | TU          | Alpha Lyrae s. 7h 39m p.m.                       | 5 18   | 0 58 45 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 6 40    | 10 25     | 6 33      | 65                           | 3 31      |       |                        |                | 23                    |                |                                 |          | 7 20      | 7 51     | 247                 |
| 5            | W           | Old St. Barthol.                                 | 5 20   | 1 18 45 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 6 37    | 11 19     | 7 26      | 66                           | 4 27      |       |                        |                | 24                    |                |                                 |          | 8 27      | 9 11     | 248                 |
| 6            | TH          | Beta Aquilae s. 8h 47m p.m.                      | 5 21   | 1 38 45                           | 6 35    | Morning.  | 8 19      | 65 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 5 17      |       |                        |                | 25                    |                |                                 |          | 9 57      | 10 41    | 249                 |
| 7            | F           | Eunurchus  | 5 23   | 1 57 44 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 6 32    | 0 23      | 9 9       | 63 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 5 40      |       |                        |                | 26                    |                |                                 |          | 11 26     | No Tide. | 250                 |
| 8            | S           | Natv. B. V. Mary                                 | 5 24   | 2 18 44 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 6 29    | 1 33      | 9 57      | 60                           | 6 4       |       |                        |                | 27                    |                |                                 |          | 0 6       | 0 35     | 251                 |
| 9            | S           | 14TH S.aft. TRIN.                                | 5 26   | 2 38 44                           | 6 27    | 2 45      | 10 42     | 56                           | 6 21      |       |                        |                | 28                    |                |                                 |          | 0 58      | 1 22     | 252                 |
| 10           | M           | Alpha Aquilae s. 8h 27m p.m.                     | 5 27   | 2 59 43 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 6 25    | 3 56      | 11 24     | 51                           | 6 34      |       |                        |                | 29                    |                |                                 |          | 1 43      | 2 1      | 253                 |
| 11           | TU          | Day breaks 3h 28m                                | 5 29   | 3 19 43 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 6 23    | 5 8       | Afternoon | 45 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 6 46      |       |                        |                | ○                     |                |                                 |          | 2 15      | 2 31     | 254                 |
| 12           | W           | Night increased 3h 45m                           | 5 31   | 3 40 42 <sup>2</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 6 20    | 6 17      | 0 44      | 40                           | 6 57      |       |                        |                | 1                     |                |                                 |          | 2 47      | 3 0      | 255                 |
| 13           | TH          | Length of day 12h 46m                            | 5 32   | 4 1 42 <sup>2</sup> <sub>2</sub>  | 6 18    | 7 27      | 1 24      | 34 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 7 7       |       |                        |                | 2                     |                |                                 |          | 3 13      | 3 30     | 256                 |
| 14           | F           | Holy Cross                                       | 5 34   | 4 22 42                           | 6 16    | 8 39      | 2 5       | 28 <sup>2</sup> <sub>1</sub> | 7 19      |       |                        |                | 3                     |                |                                 |          | 3 42      | 3 56     | 257                 |
| 15           | S           | Alpha Cygni souths 8h 59m p.m.                   | 5 35   | 4 43 41 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 6 14    | 9 53      | 2 48      | 23                           | 7 31      |       |                        |                | 4                     |                |                                 |          | 4 10      | 4 26     | 258                 |
| 16           | S           | 15TH S.aft. TRIN.                                | 5 37   | 5 41 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>    | 6 12    | 11 9      | 3 34      | 18                           | 7 48      |       |                        |                | 5                     |                |                                 |          | 4 38      | 4 54     | 259                 |
| 17           | M           | Lambert. Buck hunt.                              | 5 38   | 5 25 41                           | 6 9     | Afternoon | 4 24      | 14                           | 8 11      |       |                        |                | 6                     |                |                                 |          | 5 8       | 5 26     | 260                 |
| 18           | TU          | K. Geo. I & II Ind.                              | 5 40   | 5 46 40 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 6 7     | 1 47      | 5 19      | 11 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 8 46      |       |                        |                | 7                     |                |                                 |          | 5 42      | 6 4      | 261                 |
| 19           | W           | Ember Week                                       | 5 42   | 6 7 40                            | 6 5     | 2 58      | 6 17      | 9 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>  | 9 34      |       |                        |                | 8                     |                |                                 |          | 6 26      | 6 50     | 262                 |
| 20           | TH          | Bat. of Alma, 1854                               | 5 43   | 6 28 39 <sup>3</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 6 2     | 3 57      | 7 19      | 10 <sup>4</sup> <sub>1</sub> | 10 45     |       |                        |                | 9                     |                |                                 |          | 7 21      | 7 58     | 263                 |
| 21           | F           | St. Matthew                                      | 5 45   | 6 49 39 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 6 0     | 4 41      | 8 20      | 12 <sup>2</sup> <sub>4</sub> | Morning.  |       |                        |                | 10                    |                |                                 |          | 8 47      | 9 34     | 264                 |
| 22           | S           | Alpha Cygni s. 8h 32m p.m.                       | 5 47   | 7 10 39                           | 5 58    | 5 11      | 9 19      | 17                           | 0 8       |       |                        |                | 11                    |                |                                 |          | 10 23     | 11 14    | 265                 |
| 23           | S           | 16TH S.aft. TRIN.                                | 5 48   | 7 31 38 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 5 56    | 5 33      | 10 16     | 22 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 1 40      |       |                        |                | 12                    |                |                                 |          | 11 52     | No Tide. | 266                 |
| 24           | M           | Length of night 11h 56m                          | 5 50   | 7 52 38 <sup>4</sup> <sub>3</sub> | 5 54    | 5 50      | 11 10     | 29 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3 14      |       |                        |                | 13                    |                |                                 |          | 0 25      | 0 53     | 267                 |
| 25           | TU          | Alpha Pegas. s. 10h 41m p.m.                     | 5 51   | 8 13 37 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 5 52    | 6 4       | Morning.  |                              | 4 47      |       |                        |                | ●                     |                |                                 |          | 1 17      | 1 38     | 268                 |
| 26           | W           | St. Cyprian Old Holy Rood                        | 5 53   | 8 33 37 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 5 50    | 6 18      | 0 1       | 37                           | 6 17      |       |                        |                | 15                    |                |                                 |          | 2 0       | 2 21     | 269                 |
| 27           | TH          | Day decreased 4h 42m                             | 5 55   | 8 54 37                           | 5 47    | 6 34      | 0 52      | 44 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 7 45      |       |                        |                | 16                    |                |                                 |          | 2 42      | 3 2      | 270                 |
| 28           | F           | Beta Aquarii s. 8h 56m p.m.                      | 5 56   | 9 14 36 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 5 45    | 6 50      | 1 43      | 51                           | 9 13      |       |                        |                | 17                    |                |                                 |          | 3 22      | 3 42     | 271                 |
| 29           | S           | Michaelmas Day                                   | 5 58   | 9 34 36 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 5 43    | 7 12      | 2 35      | 56 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 10 40     |       |                        |                | 18                    |                |                                 |          | 4 2       | 4 20     | 272                 |
| 30           | S           | 17TH S.aft. TRIN.                                | 5 59   | 9 53 35 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 5 41    | 7 40      | 3 29      | 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | Afternoon |       |                        |                | 19                    |                |                                 |          | 4 40      | 4 59     | 273                 |



NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

And living flowers are there,  
Which like a bud compacted,  
Their purple cups contracted,  
And now in open blossoms spread.  
Stretch like green anthers, many a seeking head.

HOWEVER beautiful to look at sea-anemones may be, they are extremely disagreeable to the touch, whether closed or open: in the former case, they have a cold slimy feel, which is far from pleasant; in the latter, the feelers appear to cause a slight irritation—arising, perhaps, from their roughness, as actual stinging is confined to another member of the family (*Actinia viridis*). They belong to the order Carnosi (*carnosus*, fleshy, from their substance), of the Polypi family, and the name *Actinia gemmacea*, was given from its resemblance to the anemone. When closed, the animal is in its quiescent state; when open, it is seeking its food, which is shrimps, small crabs, whelks, or probably with indifference any animal within reach of its numerous feelers. Whatever is seized is conveyed to the central mouth, the soft parts are devoured, and if it be a shell-fish, the empty shell is, after a while, ejected. The size of the prey is frequently most disproportioned to that of the feeder.

Small specimens of the tribe *Calepha*, familiarly known as sea-jelly (*Medusa*), sea-blubbers, or jelly-fishes, are seen floating by thousands near our coasts, during the summer and autumn; and it is to the microscopic members of this family we owe that phosphorescence which occasions the luminosity of the ocean—

Spangling the waves with lights as vain  
As pleasures in this vale of pain,  
That dazzle as they fade.

Cuvier tells us "that the sea-mouse (*Aphrodite*) has colours not inferior in beauty to the plumage of the humming-bird, or to the lustre of the richest gems."

The globular beroe (*Beroe pileus*) is called by boatmen the spawn of the sea-egg, which it somewhat resembles in its globular and ribbed form; but the rows of cilia, when seen through a microscope, are slightly curved backwards, so that the whole apparatus gives not a very bad representation of the paddle-wheel of a steam-boat. The star-like sea-urchin (*Holothuria*) is employed by the Chinese in the preparation of their soups, in common with an esculent seaweed, edible birds'-nests, shark's fins, and other condiments, by us considered more nourishing than palatable.

Space will not permit us to do more than allude to other objects of equal interest in the Marine Vivarium, as the sand-worms (*Serpula*), whose habitation is formed by the sand which adheres to the exudation from the animal's body; the nut-leaf (*Caryophyllia Smithii*)—one of the coral family, closely resembling the *actinia*; the lily-shaped animal (*Pentacrina Europeus*); the curious sea-mat (*Fistula foliacea*)—spreading, like a fine net, over stones, rocks, shells, and marine plants; the delicate and fragile sea-pen (*Virgularia mirabilis*); the long-legged spider-crab (*Stenorhynchus phalangium*)—like all the species of the family, slow, sluggish, and timid; the velvet swimming-crab (*Portunus puber*), whose name is given from its rich velvety coat, and to which the French also do honour, under that of *Crabe à laine*; and the hermit-crab (*Pagurus*)—so called because the borrowed shell, which serves it for a dwelling, has been likened to the cell of the hermit: it differs from all other crabs, in having the tail destitute of a shell, and therefore requires some external covering to prevent it from meeting with the numberless injuries to which *it would be otherwise exposed*: guided by instinct, it seeks some empty spiral shell, capable of affording the protection it needs, and into this carefully backs itself; and, the end of the tail being furnished with something resembling hooks, it affixes these to the top of the spire.

Within that house secure he hides,  
When danger imminent betides  
Of storms, and other harm besides.

## THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

SEPTEMBER.—ST. MATTHEW'S DAY AT CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.



To the imaginations of those among us who are genuine venerated and lovers of Coleridge and Charles Lamb, the pile of grey buildings within which those two gifted minds progressed towards maturity, will undoubtedly have become familiar ground, in every inch of which we feel not only a deep interest, but a kind of intangible property. The characteristics of the different masters will be as well known to us as though we had individually trembled or rejoiced beneath their sway, more or less severe; and the various peculiarities of the favourite school-fellow will be as indelibly printed on our memories as if we ourselves had shared with them for years the pleasures and pains of daily life. The social features of the Institution, as it existed some forty years ago, have been brought visibly before us, by those graphic touches, half indignant half affectionate, traced by the nurslings whose names have reflected on Christ's Hospital a lustre that will never fade. They have, however, left to more prosaic writers the task of recording matter-of-fact details respecting its previous history; and as these would, in their present form, scarcely come within the sphere of the general reader, a hasty glance at its origin may be suffered to introduce a description of the ceremony to which this sketch more especially refers.

It happened that, in the year 1552, Bishop Ridley, of martyr renown, preached before King Edward VI., at Westminster, a sermon on charity, "wherein," says Stow in his *Chronicles*, "he made fruitful and godly exhortation to the rich to be merciful unto the poor; and also to such as were in authority, to travail by some charitable way and means, to comfort and relieve them." The young King had, it may be presumed, but small reason to reproach himself with backwardness in works of piety and mercy, but his mind was, on this occasion, so deeply impressed with the heavy obligations which rested on him of practising unceasingly the precepts to which had listened, that at the close of the service he sent for the Bishop, and, after thanking him for his godly discourse, proceeded to advise with him on the best means of relieving the condition of the poor and needy of the city of London. As the benefits contemplated were to be of no limited or temporary character, Ridley suggested the prudence of a communication with the municipality; and so zealous were both King and Bishop in the good work, that the former then and there signed and sealed with his own hand a letter on the subject, which the latter, on the same evening, personally delivered to the Lord Mayor, Sir Richard Dobbs, who held the office at that time, and who displayed the greatest anxiety to further the wishes of the young Monarch. The good divine dined with him by appointment on the following day (for even then it would appear charity and good cheer went hand in hand); two Aldermen, and six other influential men belonging to the City were present; and, by their combined endeavours a comprehensive scheme of usefulness was devised, which was speedily submitted for Royal approval, and ultimately carried out. This plan embraced almost every class of the poor. For the reformation of the vicious, Bridewell was prepared; for the comfort and relief of the sick, the Hospitals of St. Bartholomew and St. Thomas were instituted; the decayed housekeeper was relieved at home; and, finally, for the nurture and education of destitute children, was set apart the Convent of Grey Friars, which, after the dissolution of monastic institutions, had been made over by Henry VIII. to the city of London, in trust for the poor. The old buildings were speedily rescued from the dilapidated condition into which they had fallen; and in six months' time three hundred and forty children were received within the walls. In 1553, the civic dignitaries, accompanied by the scholars, clothed in their original garb of russet cotton—which was soon exchanged for the one which, with some few alterations, they now wear—attended at the palace where Edward and Ridley had held their memorable conversation, to receive their charter from the hands of the King. The bestowal of four thousand marks by the year on these Royal Hospitals as an endowment was among the last acts of Edward's life; he expired only two days afterwards, thanking God that he had been granted life to finish the work which had lain so near his heart. The deep and tender

reverence for the memory of its youthful founder, which has endured even to the present day, is a beautiful characteristic of the Christ's Hospital scholar.

Since that period the prosperity of the institution has been subject to manifold fluctuations: the number of children descending, in the year 1580, so low as a hundred and fifty, from want of funds; and rising again, as in our own times, to twelve hundred, owing to the munificent donations of private individuals. The objects of the establishment have also been by degrees materially changed and elevated. Other sources of relief have arisen for those truly destitute children, in whose favour it was first conceived; its benefits have been, therefore, applied to others, who, though scarcely needing them less, belong to a higher grade of society. The education and moral training which they now receive is of the first order: it usually proves the basis of a well-regulated life, and not unfrequently the stepping-stone to fortune and renown. In the government of the institution, the original regulations are, as far as possible, adhered to; and St. Matthew's Day, which was, from the first year of the foundation, set apart for the general court of the several Royal Hospitals, is still observed with the usual solemnity. It is, indeed, the great festival of the year at Christ's Hospital; and though chiefly familiar to those connected with the School, presents much that is very interesting even to the general observer.

On the morning of the 21st of September, an air of very unusual animation pervades the immediate environs of the stone structure in Newgate-street, which under ordinary circumstances might escape the notice of the passer-by; so calm and lifeless is the scene enclosed within those massive iron gates, which present to the mind no idea but that of perpetual exclusion. But for once they stand hospitably open, and groups of gay, well-dressed people are entering here, as well as through Christ's-Church-passage, the ordinary inlet. The visitors having probably arrived some time before the Great Hall is opened to the public, devote the interval to a quiet inspection of various inscriptions and monumental tablets to the memories of former patrons and masters, which may be found in the quiet cloisters; for these are consecrated ground, and the burial-places of many who have died within the walls. Or they saunter up to the pump in the centre of the stone quadrangle, the garden of the old convent, and endeavour to extract local information from the lips of one or two of the younger scholars who may be hovering near it. The great body of the school, however, is attending divine service in the adjacent church, where the peculiar character of the occasion has collected a far larger assemblage of persons than ordinarily meet together to consecrate the Saint's-days of our Church. The Lord Mayor, in full array, with the various members of his suite, is present, and divides public attention with the young heroes of the day, who, in a compact mass, occupy the upper galleries; and even, it is to be feared, with the sermon—which is always preached by some one who has himself experienced the benefits of the institution, and is not unfrequently the first fruits of his ministry. Having passed into the building, and, perhaps, waited to hear the anthem sung at the express invitation of the pew-opener, who feels a personal pride in its effect, the visitor, with prudent anxiety to obtain a good position for the approaching ceremony, once more retreats, and finds his way to a small door out of the cloisters, through which, by means of a little interest, he is admitted to the range of raised seats under the gallery, at the upper end of the Hall. Once here he will find no lack of pleasant entertainment to occupy the time which may intervene before the appearance of the chief actors in the forthcoming scene.

The Great Hall of Christ's Hospital, by its noble proportions—large enough it is said to enclose a first-rate ship of war—and by the style of its architecture and decorations which are pure Gothic, creates in the mind a feeling of solemnity very rarely associated with edifices of so recent a date as the one in question, which is the third erection, and was opened as lately as 1829. We look down a vista almost two hundred feet in length, terminating in a handsome organ; on each side of which is a casement of stained glass, offering very glowing representations of the more popular Christian virtues. Below these are tiers of seats, soon, as we shall see, to be thickly tenanted. Down the whole length of the right-hand wall, are pierced large handsome windows which reflect their rainbow tints on the pictures ornamenting the opposite side. These are all connected in some way with the history of the institution. Panels emblazoned with the arms of the different presidents and other devices occupy the vacant spaces, and a splendid ceiling of groined oak crowns the scene most worthily.

But now we hear a gradually increasing sound of rushing feet and murmuring voices, and from two apertures beneath the organ issues an endless flock of impetuous boys, who leap up to their appointed seats and arrange themselves, without confusion or delay. Those tiers of youthful faces, to which the white bands impart a similarity and sobriety almost ludicrous, the monotonous repetition of the same costume, variegated only in its effect by the occasional display of a yellow stocking, present a *tout-ensemble* full of interest and individuality. As we gaze on them, we wonder where sits the Middleton or the Scrofield of the next generation; but our meditations are soon interrupted by the entrance of the governors with their staves of office, followed by the Lord Mayor and other civic dignitaries, who present, no doubt, to the juvenile lookers-on, a spectacle of unexampled glory and dignity as they advance to their seats of honour at the top of the Hall. When quiet and order are re-established, a small moveable platform is pushed forward to a position immediately facing the Lord Mayor. A semicircular range of seats is quickly formed behind it, which are taken by the head-masters and the little group of Grechians; one of whom, however, now takes his place on the rostrum, and commences an oration in Greek, Latin, or English, as the case may be, on the benefits of the Sister Institutions. A fellow-student crouches immediately behind him to prompt in any moment of need; but there is an intellectual enthusiasm for his subject displayed in his voice and manner that soon puts an end to any fear of failure, and creates its due impression on the audience. They greet him with a warm inspiring round of applause as he descends to give place to his successor, who takes up the same theme in a different tongue. The regulations of the day formerly allowed to every Grechan the opportunity of thus publicly distinguishing himself; but the ceremony was by this means so tediously extended, that the number is now limited, and the speeches are all delivered in little more than an hour. At their conclusion, those of the orators who are proceeding to college disperse themselves among the assembly, to collect, in a glove, the contributions of the public towards their maintenance at the University; and £120 is the average sum secured by this means. According to an ancient law, the beadles of the establishment, who have been themselves Blues, then advance, one by one, and having laid down their staves, retire to the bottom of the Hall, in order (says the old ordinance) "that the opinion of the court may be heard touching the doing of their duties;" this is now a mere form, and the insignia of office are immediately resumed. "God save the Queen" is now sung by all present; and the thrilling effect of these myriads of youthful voices may be easily imagined. Their peculiar power, however, is even more decidedly demonstrated by the succession of shrill cheers in which they give vent to their excitement and enthusiasm, and which merrily serenade the ears of the visitor as he passes out. Once more the cloisters present a busy scene, as strangers and residents mingle together in picturesque confusion; but, before long, all will have dispersed, and the echo of Christ's Hospital's gayest festival will exist only in the minds of those who beheld it.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

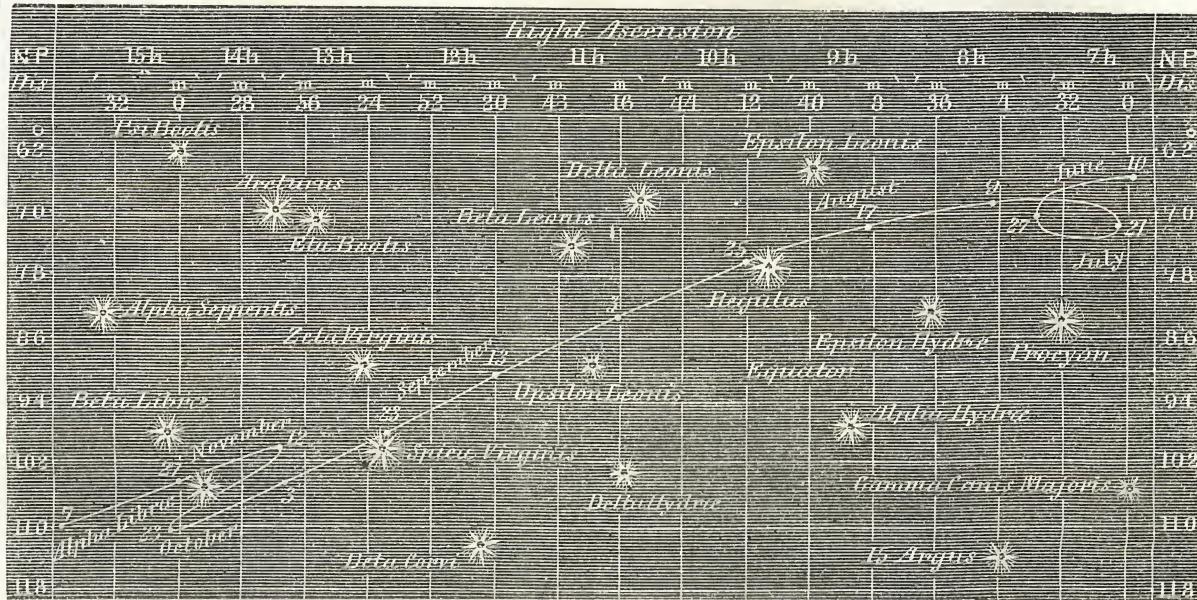
SEPTEMBER.

THE SUN is situated north of the Equator till the 23rd, at 2h. 59m. P.M., when he crosses it, going southward; he passes from the sign Virgo (the Virgin) to that of Libra (the Balance) at this time; and autumn commences; he having been in that sign 30 days 2 hours and 43 minutes. His distance from the Earth, on the

15th, is 95,482,000 miles. He rises and sets on the 5th at the E. by N. and the W. by N. points of the horizon; and on the 23rd, at points due East and West respectively.

The Moon, on the 1st, is in the constellation Taurus; on the 4th, in Gemini; on the 6th, in Cancer; on the 8th, in Leo; on the 11th, in Virgo; on the 15th, in Libra; on the 17th, in Scorpio; from thence passing into Ophiuchus, on the

## THE PATH OF MERCURY FROM JUNE 10 TO DECEMBER 7, 1855.



Scale, 24 degrees to one inch.

same day; on the 18th, into Sagittarius; on the 21st, into Capricornus; on the 23rd, into Aquarius; on the 24th, into Pisces; and on the 25th, into Cetus; on the 26th, she re-enters Pisces; and, passing from thence through part of Cetus, is in Aries on the 27th, and in Taurus from the 29th. She is about  $17\frac{1}{2}$ ° north of the Equator at the beginning of the month; is at her extreme north declination on the 5th; is on the Equator on the 12th; is at her extreme south declination at midnight on the 19th; is on the Equator on the 26th, and about  $24\frac{1}{2}$ ° N. at the end of the month. She is near Uranus on the 1st; the Pleiades on the 1st and 2nd; Aldebaran on the 2nd and 3rd; Beta Tauri on the 3rd and 4th; Saturn on the 4th; Castor and Pollux on the 6th; Mars on the 7th; Mercury on the 12th; Venus and Spica Virginis on the 13th; Alpha Librae on the 15th; Antares on the 17th; Jupiter on the 23rd; the Pleiades and Uranus again on the 29th; and Aldebaran on the 30th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Leo till the 5th: and in Virgo to the end of the month. It rises after the Sun throughout the month, and therefore is not visible during the mornings. It sets on the 1st at 7h. 5m. P.M.; on the 10th, at 6h. 51m.; on the 20th, at 6h. 30m.; and on the 30th, at 6h. 9m. P.M. These times follow those of the Sun by 19 minutes on the 1st, and by above half an hour from the 8th to the end of the month. He is not favourably situated for observation, and sets near the W. by N. point of the horizon about the beginning of the month; near the W. about the 11th; near the W. by S. about the 20th; and near the W.S.W. point of the horizon about the end of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 12th; Venus on the 17th; Spica Virginis on the 26th; and is in Aphelion on the 26th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the annexed diagram.

VENUS is in the constellation Virgo throughout the month. She sets, on the 1st, at 7h. 11m. p.m., being 25 minutes after the Sun; with him, at 6h. 22m. p.m. on the 11th, and before him from the 12th. She rises after the Sun throughout the month, and is not favourably situated for observation. She is moving eastward among the stars till the 7th; is stationary among them on the 8th; is moving westward from the 9th; is about 15 degrees from Spica Virginis at the beginning of the month; near the Moon on the 13th; and Mercury on the 17th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in next month.

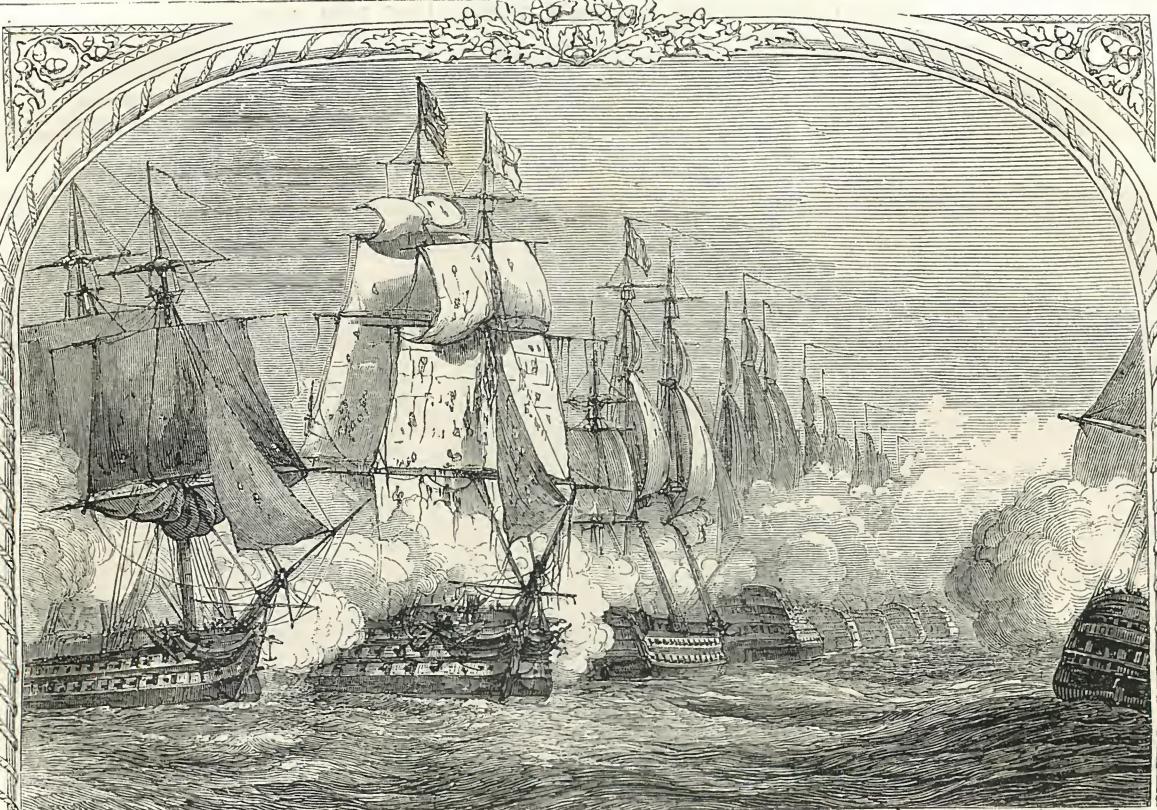
MARS is in the constellation Cancer till the 26th, and in Leo to the end of the month. It rises, on the 1st, at 1h. 30m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 1h. 24m.; and, on the 30th, at 1h. 18m. A.M.; near the N.E. by E. point of the horizon, at the beginning of the month; and about  $4^{\circ}$  S. of the E.N.E. point, at the end of the month. He souths at an altitude of  $59^{\circ}$  at the beginning of the month; decreasing to  $55^{\circ}$  by the end of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 7th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram for last month.

JUPITER is in the constellation Aquarius till the 26th, and in Capricornus to the end of the month. It is an evening star, and sets, on the 1st, at 4h. 8m.; on the 15th, at 3h. 4m.; and, on the 30th, at 1h. 59m. A.M.; near the W.S.W. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of about  $24^{\circ}$  throughout the month. He is moving westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 23rd. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram for last month.

(Continued on page 53.)

| TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON,<br>And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee)<br>or at her least distance (Perigee), from the Earth<br>in each Lunation. |    | Days of the<br>Month. | RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS AT MEAN NOON. |                               |                    |                               |                    |                               |                    |                               |                    |                               |                    |                               |
|---|----|-----------------------|---|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
|   |    |                       | MERCURY.  |                               | VENUS.             |                               | MARS.              |                               | JUPITER.           |                               | SATURN.            |                               | URANUS.            |                               |
|   |    |                       | Right<br>Ascension  | North<br>Polar Dis-<br>tance. | Right<br>Ascension | North<br>Polar Dis-<br>tance. | Right<br>Ascension | North<br>Polar Dis-<br>tance. | Right<br>Ascension | North<br>Polar Dis-<br>tance. | Right<br>Ascension | North<br>Polar Dis-<br>tance. | Right<br>Ascension | North<br>Polar Dis-<br>tance. |
| LAST QUARTER .....  | 3  | 8                     | 24  | A.M.                          | 1                  | 11h. 3m                       | 82° 18'            | 12h. 42m                      | 100° 46'           | 8h. 11m                       | 68° 55'            | 21h. 56m                      | 103° 55'           | 5h. 54m                       |
| NEW MOON .....  | 11 | 10                    | 52  | A.M.                          | 6                  | 11 36                         | 86                 | 12 45                         | 101 58             | 8 24                          | 69 35              | 21 53                         | 104 11             | 5 55                          |
| FIRST QUARTER .....   | 19 | 7                     | 1   | A.M.                          | 11                 | 12 6                          | 90                 | 4 12                          | 102 45             | 8 37                          | 70 18              | 21 51                         | 104 22             | 5 56                          |
| FULL MOON .....   | 25 | 9                     | 26  | P.M.                          | 16                 | 12 35                         | 93 48              | 12 45                         | 103 3              | 8 50                          | 71 14              | 21 49                         | 104 33             | 5 57                          |
| APOGEE .....  | 9  | 7                     | 0   | P.M.                          | 21                 | 13 2                          | 97                 | 21 12                         | 102 46             | 9 2                           | 71 53              | 21 47                         | 104 42             | 5 58                          |
| PERIGEE .....   | 24 | 10                    | 0   | P.M.                          | 26                 | 13 28                         | 100 38             | 12 21                         | 101 52             | 9 15                          | 72 44              | 21 45                         | 104 50             | 5 59                          |
|   |    |                       |   |                               | 30                 | 13 48                         | 103 3              | 12 16                         | 100 46             | 9 25                          | 73 26              | 21 44                         | 104 55             | 6 0                           |

OCTOBER.



BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR, (NELSON,) OCTOBER 21ST, 1805.

| Day of Month | Day of Week | ANNIVERSARIES,<br>FESTIVALS,<br>OCCURRENCES, &c. | SUN.    |       |                          |                  |       |                          | MOON.               |                  |                          |        |       |                       | DURATION OF MOONLIGHT. |             |       |               |       |       | HIGH WATER<br>AT LONDON BRIDGE. |       |       |           |       |       | Day of<br>the Year. |     |
|--------------|-------------|--|---------|-------|--------------------------|------------------|-------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------------|--------|-------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------|---------------|-------|-------|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|---------------------|-----|
|              |             |  | SOUTHS. |       |                          | RISES.           |       |                          | SOUTHS.             |                  |                          | RISES. |       |                       | Before Sunrise.        |             |       | After Sunset. |       |       | Morning                         |       |       | Afternoon |       |       |                     |     |
|              |             |  | H. M.   | M. S. | Deg.<br>above<br>horizon | H. M.            | M. S. | Deg.<br>above<br>horizon | H. M.               | M. S.            | Deg.<br>above<br>horizon | H. M.  | M. S. | O'Clock.<br>0 2 4 5 6 | Moon's<br>Age.         | 6 7 8 10 12 | H. M. | H. M.         | H. M. | H. M. | H. M.                           | H. M. | H. M. | H. M.     | H. M. | H. M. |                     |     |
| 1            | M           | Remigius. Pheasant<br>sh. beg.                   | 6       | 1     | 10 13                    | 35 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 5 40  | 8 19                     | 4 23                | 64 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 1 18                     |        |       |                       |                        |             |       | 20            |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       |                     | 274 |
| 2            | TU          | Night increased 5h                               | 6       | 3     | 10 32                    | 35               | 5 38  | 9 10                     | 5 18                | 66               | 2 21                     |        |       |                       |                        |             |       | C             |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       |                     | 275 |
| 3            | W           | Old St. Matthew                                  | 6       | 5     | 10 51                    | 34 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 5 35  | 10 11                    | 6 12                | 65 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 3 10                     |        |       |                       |                        |             |       | 22            |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       |                     | 276 |
| 4            | TH          | Day breaks 4h 12m                                | 6       | 7     | 11 9                     | 34 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 5 32  | 11 19                    | 7 4                 | 64 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 3 45                     |        |       |                       |                        |             |       | 23            |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       |                     | 277 |
| 5            | F           | Length of day 11h 20m                            | 6       | 9     | 11 27                    | 34               | 5 29  | Morning.                 | 7 53                | 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 4 9                      |        |       |                       |                        |             | 24    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 278                 |     |
| 6            | S           | Faith  | 6       | 10    | 11 45                    | 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 5 27  | 0 32                     | 8 39                | 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 4 28                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 25    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 279                 |     |
| 7            | S           | 18TH S. aft. TRIN.                               | 6       | 12    | 12 2                     | 33               | 5 24  | 1 43                     | 9 22                | 53               | 4 42                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 26    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | No Tide. 0 9 280    |     |
| 8            | M           | Gamma Pegasi souths 10h<br>83m r.m.              | 6       | 14    | 12 19                    | 32 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 5 22  | 2 55                     | 10 3                | 47 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 4 55                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 27    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 281                 |     |
| 9            | Te          | St. Denys  | 6       | 15    | 12 35                    | 32 $\frac{4}{5}$ | 5 20  | 4 6                      | 10 43               | 42               | 5 5                      |        |       |                       |                        |             | 28    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 282                 |     |
| 10           | W           | Oxf. & Cam. T. b.                                | 6       | 17    | 12 51                    | 32               | 5 18  | 5 15                     | 11 23               | 36 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 5 16                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 29    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 283                 |     |
| 11           | Th          | Old Michael. Day<br>[Ins. due]                   | 6       | 19    | 13 7                     | 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 5 15  | 6 28                     | Afternoon           | 30 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 5 27                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 1     |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 284                 |     |
| 12           | F           |  | 6       | 20    | 13 22                    | 31 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 5 13  | 7 41                     | 0 46                | 24 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 5 38                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 2     |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 285                 |     |
| 13           | S           | Tr. Ed. Con. Fire                                | 6       | 22    | 13 36                    | 30 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 5 10  | 8 59                     | 1 32                | 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 5 55                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 3     |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 286                 |     |
| 14           | S           | 19TH S. aft. TRIN.                               | 6       | 24    | 13 50                    | 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 5 8   | 10 18                    | 2 21                | 15               | 6 14                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 4     |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 287                 |     |
| 15           | M           | Gamma Pegasi souths 10h<br>30m P.M.              | 6       | 25    | 14 430                   | 5 6              | 11 38 | 3 14                     | 11 $\frac{3}{4}$    | 6 47             |                          |        |       |                       |                        | 4           |       |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       | 288   |                     |     |
| 16           | Tu          | Alpha Arietis souths 0h 23m                      | 6       | 27    | 14 17                    | 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 5 4   | Afternoon                | 4 11                | 10               | 7 29                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 5     |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 289                 |     |
| 17           | W           | Etheldreda                                       | 6       | 28    | 14 29                    | 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 5 2   | 1 53                     | 5 11                | 9 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 8 32                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 6     |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 290                 |     |
| 18           | Th          | St. Luke   | 6       | 30    | 14 41                    | 29               | 5 0   | 2 39                     | 6 10                | 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 9 47                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 7     |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 291                 |     |
| 19           | F           | Beta Aquarii souths 7h 33m<br>P.M.               | 6       | 31    | 14 52                    | 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 4 58  | 3 14                     | 7 9 15              | 11 15            |                          |        |       |                       |                        | 8           |       |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       | 292   |                     |     |
| 20           | S           | Twilight ends 6h 51m                             | 6       | 32    | 15 3                     | 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 4 56  | 3 37                     | 8 420               | Morning.         |                          |        |       |                       |                        | 9           |       |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       | 293   |                     |     |
| 21           | S           | 20TH S. aft. TRIN.                               | 6       | 34    | 15 13                    | 28               | 4 54  | 3 56                     | 8 57                | 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 0 43                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 10    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 294                 |     |
| 22           | M           | Alpha Aquarii s. 7h 56m r.m.                     | 6       | 36    | 15 22                    | 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 4 52  | 4 10                     | 9 48                | 33 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 2 14                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 11    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 295                 |     |
| 23           | Tu          | Length of night 13h 48m                          | 6       | 38    | 15 31                    | 27 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 4 50  | 4 18                     | 10 38               | 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 3 43                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 12    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 296                 |     |
| 24           | W           | Day decreased 8h 27m                             | 6       | 40    | 15 39                    | 26 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 4 47  | 4 37                     | 11 28               | 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 5 12                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 13    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 297                 |     |
| 25           | Th          | St. Crispin.                                     | 6       | 42    | 15 46                    | 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 4 45  | 4 53                     | Morning.            |                  | 6 39                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 14    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 298                 |     |
| 26           | F           | Alpha Pegasi s. 8h 39m P.M.                      | 6       | 44    | 15 53                    | 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 4 43  | 5 13                     | 0 20                | 54               | 8 8                      |        |       |                       |                        |             | 15    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 299                 |     |
| 27           | S           | Night increased 6h 39m                           | 6       | 46    | 15 59                    | 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 4 41  | 5 38                     | 1 13                | 59 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 9 34                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 16    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 300                 |     |
| 28           | S           | 21st S. aft. TRIN.                               | 6       | 48    | 16 4                     | 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 4 39  | 6 11                     | 2 9                 | 63 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 10 56                    |        |       |                       |                        |             | 17    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 301                 |     |
| 29           | M           | [St. Sim. St. Ju.]                               | 6       | 50    | 16 9                     | 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 4 37  | 6 57                     | 3 565 $\frac{1}{2}$ | Afternoon        |                          |        |       |                       |                        | 18          |       |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       | 302   |                     |     |
| 30           | Tu          | Day breaks 4h 56m                                | 6       | 51    | 16 12                    | 24 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 4 36  | 7 56                     | 4 266               | 1 5              |                          |        |       |                       |                        | 19          |       |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       | 303   |                     |     |
| 31           | W           | Alpha Andromedae souths<br>11h 22m P.M.          | 6       | 53    | 16 15                    | 24 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 4 34  | 9 3                      | 4 566               | 65 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 1 47                     |        |       |                       |                        |             | 20    |               |       |       |                                 |       |       |           |       |       | 304                 |     |



## NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

And thou, wi'd bramble, back dost bring,  
In all their witching power,  
The fresh green days of life's fair spring,  
And boyhood's happy hour.

The glowing hues of this month are not confined to the many-coloured woods; the hedges are decked with hip and haw, the rose-tinted fruit of the spindle-tree (*Euonymus Europaeus*), the red and white berries of the cowberries (*Vitis idaea*), the gratefully acid ones of the barberry (*Berberis vulgaris*); and the brilliantly scarlet ones of the white bryony (*Bryonia dioica*); while the round-leaved winter green (*Pyrola rotundifolia*) adorns the background with its pear-shaped unfading foliage. In the still green pastures we now find the meadow saffron (*Cochlicoum Autumnae*), which opens its lovely pale purple petals, unrolled by leaves, to greet the sun at his rising, folding them carefully up at four o'clock.

A second blow of many flowers appears, "faintly tinged, and breathing no perfume." The bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) bends beneath its jetty load of fruit, its leaves brilliantly coloured with the smiles of the departing year, and occasionally bearing on their surface, light coloured marks, as if a wandering stream of milk had passed over them. These are the tracks of insects. A little fly deposits its egg between the upper and under surface, and when the young caterpillar is hatched, it moves along between the two skins, feeding upon the substance of the leaf, carefully turning back as it approaches the edge. As it eats, more and more in proportion to its growth, so does its track widen, until at last it comes to a stop, and the chrysalis of the future moth is formed. On the stem of the branches, the insect gall (*Cynips*) forms a fleshy sort of excrescence as its habitation.

In the hasty twilight, "the hawk-moths" may be seen flitting about, seldom making their appearance until that sober time of day. The larger species, belonging to the genus *Sphinx*, were so named from the habit of the caterpillar in raising the fore part of the body with the head bent down, and sitting for a long

time in a position resembling the Egyptian Sphinx. The caterpillar of the largest European species, the Death's-head moth (*Acherontia Atropos*), is of considerable size, of a delicate pea-green, striped with a darker tint of the same colour, fading into yellowish-white. When disturbed, it draws back rapidly, making at the time a clicking noise, like the snap of an electric spark. It feeds on the plants of potato, and on the shoots of Jessamine. This moth, one of our finest insects—for it measures more than five inches in extent—is marked with yellow, bordering on buff, and various shades of brownish-red, and grey. On its thorax, is a spot, bearing a rude resemblance to a skull, from which it takes its name of "Death's-head," and from this ominous badge, and the faculty it possesses of emitting a very shrill creak like the cry of a mouse, it has been made the subject of an absurd superstitious dread. How this sound is caused, is still a matter of dispute, but the most probable conjecture is, that it is occasioned by the insect rubbing its mandibles, or the instrument it perforates with, against its horny chest. The grasshopper and cricket effect their well-known chirpings, by grating their spiny thighs against their rigid wings.

No insect has, in truth, the requisite organs to produce a genuine voice. Superstition has always been particularly alive in suggesting causes of alarm from the insect world; and where man should have seen only beauty and wisdom, he has too often found horror and dismay. The markings on the back of this "Death's-head phantom" represent to such fertile imaginations the head of a perfect human skeleton, with limb-bones crossed beneath its cry becomes the voice of anguish, the signal of grief, and flying into their apartments in the evening, it extinguishes the lights, not from the effect of natural attraction, but as the foreteller of war, pestilence, hunger, and death, to both man and beast. The same terror is inspired by its appearance on the Continent, where it is called the "Wandering Death-bird."

Let us hope such vain imaginings are fast flitting away, before the light of education and experience.

OCTOBER.



A VISIT TO GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

HERE is Greenwich, and here is the façade and the cupola of the Sailor's Hospital, with semicircles of wooden hills in the background. We have left the fog behind us in London, and the evening sun looks out from the clouds as if he would say—"I am alive and in health, for all that the Londoners believe me to be ailing or *in articulo mortis*." Our boat rushes past the *Dreadnought*—we touch the shore—the engines are stopped—we are at our journey's end.

We stand on the beautiful terrace in front of the Hospital, the house in which Queen Elizabeth loved to dwell; and here at this very spot her courtiers used to take their walks. Their gold-embroidered cloaks are gone; and in their stead you see long blue brass-buttoned coats on the mutilated or decrepit bodies of old sailors. A blue coat, a white neckcloth, shoes, white stockings, and a large three-cornered hat with gold lace—that is the uniform of the Invalids, who pass the evening of their lives in this delightful place.

Greenwich Hospital presents the most beautiful architectural group of modern England. Take the most gifted architect of the world, bandage his eyes, put him on the terrace on which we stand, and then show him this splendid building, and he will at once tell you that this is and must be a royal palace. How could he ever suspect that all this splendour of columns and cupolas is destined to shelter a couple of thousand of poor, decrepid sailors! But that it does shelter them is honourable to the founders and to the English nation.

Go to Germany, inquire in the largest and most powerful states what they have done for their disabled soldiers. There is an Hotel of Invalids at Vienna; for Austria, too, has her mutilated living monuments of the Napoleonic wars and the wars against Hungary. But compare that Austrian *Invalidenhaus* with this asylum for British sailors. A low, unwholesome site; court-yards alike inaccessible to sunlight and air; cloistered corridors; bare, uncomfortable chambers; vast, chilly saloons; and a population of old soldiers stinted even in the common necessities of life. It is a great piece of good luck for such a pensioner to obtain the post of watchman in one of the Emperor's parks, where, for a few more florins per annum, he has the privilege of waging war against dogs and ragged little boys. Go to Prussia, that military kingdom—look about in that splendid city of Berlin, and do not, for mercy's sake, refuse your penny to those old men, in shabby uniforms with medals dangling from their button-holes, who hold out their caps with one hand, while they grind old rickety organs with the other—if indeed they have two hands left! These are the veterans who made Prussia great and powerful. In return for their services, they have the inestimable privilege of begging pence from travelling Englishmen.

In those days of Corsican tribulations, England too sent her forces to the battle-fields of the Continent. England fought not only with subsidies, but with her armies and her fleets. Thus much is clearly shown, not only by history, not only by the monuments which have been erected in honour of the Duke of Wellington, but still more by the two great hospitals of Greenwich and Chelsea.

Those two hospitals, devoted to the disabled heroes of the navy and army, give incontestable proof of the grateful kindness of feeling with which the English nation honours its old soldiers. England treats her cripples as a mother would her sick and ailing children. The architectural splendours of Greenwich Hospital are by no means destined to hide poverty and misery within. The gates are open. You may walk through the refectories, the kitchens, the sitting and sleeping rooms. Wait until the "old gentlemen" sit down to their dinner:—eat a slice of their meat, smoke a pipe of their tobacco, take a pinch from one of their snuff-boxes, admire the irreproachable whiteness of their cravats, take a seat at their side on the green benches which stand on the smooth lawn from whence they view the Thames, its sails, masts, and flags, the cherished scenes of their early career. Talk to them. They like to fight their

battles over again in conversation, and will tell you whether they have to complain of the ingratitude of their country, and which is best (no matter how disgusted our German enthusiasts would be at the mere idea), to be paid so and so much per limb, or to starve on the general dietary of an Austrian *Invalidenhaus*, or rot in the streets of Berlin on an annual allowance which would hardly suffice to find a Greenwich pensioner in tobacco and snuff.

Forward to the green, leafy, hilly park! On the large grass-plots whole families are stretched out in picturesque groups, from the grandfather down to the grandsons and granddaughters; and along with them there are friends, country-cousins, maid-servants, and lap-dogs with a proud and supercilious air, for they know, sagacious little animals, that their owners are continually paying dog-taxes for them. This is Monday, the Englishman's Sunday. There they are chatting, laughing, and even getting up and dancing, eating their cold dinners with a good appetite, and a thorough enjoyment of sunshine, air, and river-breeze; and they are all cheerful, decent, and happy, as simple-minded men and women are wont to be on a holiday and on the forest-green. And the deer, half-tame, come out of the thicket and ask for their share of the feast, and we go our way up the hill lest we disturb the children and the deer.

From the top of the hill we look down upon one of the most charming landscapes that can be imagined in the vicinity of a large capital. That ocean of houses in the distance, shifting and partly hidden in the mist; the docks, with their forests of masts; the Thames itself winding its way to the sea; green, hilly country on our side, with the white steam of a distant train curling up from the deep cuttings; and at our feet, Greenwich, with its columns, cupolas, and neat villas peeping out from among shrubberies and orchards.

We share the hill on which we stand with the famous Greenwich Observatory. Probably the building has a better appearance than it had at the time when Flamsteed, with generous self-denial, established the first sextant on this spot. But even in our days, the exterior of the building is by no means imposing. Here, then, we stand on the first meridian of England. The country's pride has, up to the present time, retained it here, while the French established their meridian at Paris. But the communistic spirit of science undermines the existence of either, and the Greenwich meridian will not, I am sure, resist the spirit of the age. It will sooner or later resign its pretensions in favour of the chosen of all nations.

The road from the Observatory to the back-gate of the Park leads through an avenue of old chestnut-trees. They are in a flourishing condition, and the chestnuts are quite as good as those of Italy and southern France. Among these trees stands the official residence of the Ranger of Greenwich-park,—a nobleman or gentleman whose duty it is, in consideration of six or eight hundred pounds per annum, to pass a few summer months in this delightful retreat, and to supply Her Majesty's table with a haunch of venison once every twelvemonth. The post is a sinecure, one of those places which every one inveighs against, and which every one would be glad to possess.

We have crossed the Park, and are on Blackheath—a sunny place, which derives its gloomy name from the gypsies who used to be encamped upon it in the "days of auld lang syne." Neat villas, covered with evergreens, surround this black heath, and a hundred roads and paths invite us to stroll on and on, through garden land and park-like domains. We resist the temptation. The sun has gone down. We return to the Thames and take a steamer to Blackwall on the opposite coast.

It is night. We "take the cars," as they say in America, and rattle on, over the houses, canals, and streets, to the City. It took us just fifteen minutes to go all the distance.\*

\* "Saunterings in and about London," by Max Schlesinger. Published by Ingram and Co.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

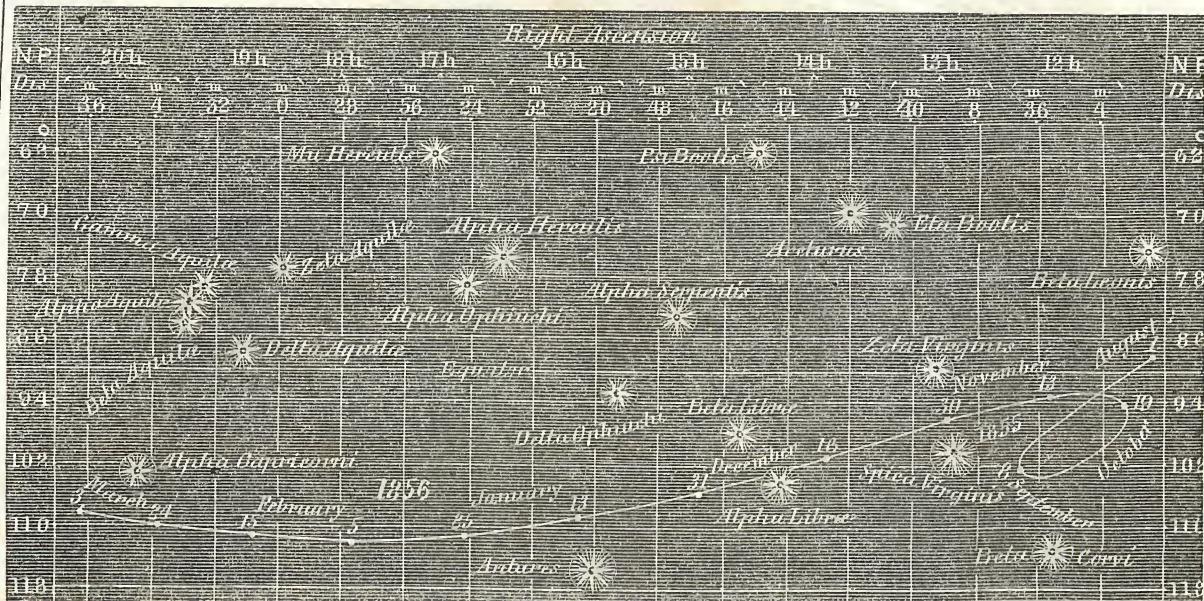
OCTOBER.

THE SUN is situated south of the Equator, and is moving southwards. On the 23rd, at 11h. 18m. P.M., he passes from the sign Libra (the Balance) to that of Scorpio (the Scorpion), having been in the former sign 30 days 8 hours and 19 minutes. His distance from the Earth on the morning of the 3rd is that

of his average distance, viz., 95,000,000 miles; on the 15th his distance is 94,671,000 miles. He rises at the beginning of the month about 5° S. of the eastern point of the horizon; on the 11th at the E. by S. point; and at the end of the month at the E.S.E. point of the horizon.

The Moon on the 2nd is in the constellation Gemini; on the 4th in Cancer; on the 5th she passes into Leo; on the 8th into Virgo; on the 12th into Libra; on

## THE PATH OF VENUS FROM AUGUST 1, 1855, TO MARCH 3, 1856.



Scale,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  degrees to one inch,

the 14<sup>th</sup> into Scorpio; on the 15th into Ophiuchus; on the 16th into Sagittarius, and on the 18th into Capricornus. On the 20th she is in Aquarius; on the 22nd in Pisces; on the 23rd in Cetus: and on the 24th in Pisces again; on the 25th, passing through Cetus, she enters into Aries; into Taurus on the 26th; Gemini on the 29th; and Cancer on the 31st. She reaches her extreme north declination on the 2nd; crosses the Equator on the 10th; reaches her extreme south declination on the 17th; crosses the Equator on the 23rd; and reaches her extreme north declination at midnight on the 29th. She is near Saturn on the 2nd; Castor and Pollux on the 2nd and 3rd; Mars and Regulus on the 6th; Venus on the 9th; Mercury on the 13th; Antares on the 14th; Jupiter on the 20th; Uranus and the Pleiades on the 26th; Aldebaran on the 27th; Beta Tauri on the 28th; Saturn again on the 29th; and Castor and Pollux on the 30th. She is totally eclipsed on the 25th: for particulars, see page 54.

MERCURY is in the constellation Virgo till the 5th, and in Libra to the end of the month. He sets on the 1st at 6h. 7m. P.M.; on the 8th at 5h. 51m.; on the 13th at 5h. 40m. P.M.; on the 18th at 5h. 26m. P.M.; on the 23rd at 5h. 11m.; and on the 31st at 4h. 38m. P.M. These times follow those of the Sun by 27 minutes on the 1st; increasing to half an hour by the 13th, and decreasing to 21m. by the 23rd, and to 4m. by the 31st. He sets near the W.S.W. point of the horizon at the beginning of the month, and near the S.W. by W. about the middle of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars till the 22nd, is stationary among them on the 23rd, is moving westward from the 24th, and is near the Moon on the 13th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in September.

VENUS is in the constellation Virgo throughout the month. She is a morning star; rising on the 5th at 5h. 54m. A.M., being 15 minutes before the Sun;

on the 14th, at 4h. 51m.; on the 24th, at 3h. 56m.; and on the last day, at 3h. 33m. A.M., being 3h. 20m. before the Sun. She is favourably situated for observation during the latter part of the month. She rises between the E. by S. and the E.S.E. points of the horizon about the beginning of the month, and near the E. point about the end of the month. She is moving westward among the stars till the 18th, is stationary among them on the 19th, is moving eastward from the 20th, is in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the 1st, and near the Moon on the 9th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the annexed diagram.

MARS is in the constellation Leo throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 1h. 17m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 1h. 11m. A.M.; and on the 31st, at 1h. 1m. A.M. near the E.N.E. point of the horizon. He soots at an altitude of 54° $\frac{1}{2}$ , at the beginning of the month; of 52° $\frac{1}{2}$ , about the middle of the month; and of 49°, at the end of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 6th, Regulus on the 20th, and in quadrature with the Sun on the 29th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in August.

**JUPITER** is in the constellation Capricornus throughout the month. He is an evening star, and sets, on the 1st, at 1h. 54m. A.M.; on the 16th, at 0h. 52m. A.M.; and on the 29th, at midnight, at a point a little south of the W.S.W. point of the horizon; he souths at an altitude of  $23^{\circ} 10'$  throughout the month. He is moving westward among the stars till the 18th; is stationary among them on the 19th; is moving eastward from the 20th; and is near the Moon on the 20th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

(Continued on page 53.)

| Days of the Month. | TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHEING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN. |          |          |            |          |          | JUPITER'S SATELLITES. |                |                |                |                     |      | OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.                 |                            |                                 |          |          |        |         |          |
|--------------------|--|----------|----------|------------|----------|----------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|------|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|----------|--------|---------|----------|
|                    |  |          |          |            |          |          | Eclipses of           |                |                |                |                     |      |  |                            |                                 |          |          |        |         |          |
|                    | Mercury.   | Venus.   | Mars.    | Jupiter.   | Saturn.  | Uranus.  | 1st Satellite.        | 2nd Satellite. | 3rd Satellite. | 4th Satellite. | Names of the Stars. | Mag. | Time of disappearance & re-appearance of the Star. | At which limb of the Moon. | Between what Latitudes visible. |          |          |        |         |          |
|                    | Afternoon.   | Morning. | Morning. | Afternoon. | Morning. | Morning. | Dis. D.               | Re-ap. R.      | Dis. D.        | Re-ap. R.      |                     |      | D. H. M.   | D. H. M.                   | D. H. M.                        | D. H. M. | D. H. M. |        |         |          |
|                    | H.   | M.       | H.       | M.         | H.       | M.       | D.                    | H.             | M.             | D.             |                     |      |  |                            |                                 |          |          |        |         |          |
| 1                  | 1  | 14       | 11       | 35         | 8        | 49       | 9                     | 4              | 5              | 22             | 2                   | 35   | c Geminorum ..                                     | 6                          | 3                               | 9        | 28       | P.M.   | Below   | North of |
| 6                  | 1  | 17       | 11       | 6          | 8        | 41       | 8                     | 43             | 5              | 3              | 2                   | 15   |  |                            | 3                               | 10       | 17       | P.M.   | horizon | 19° N.   |
| 11                 | 1  | 19       | 10       | 38         | 8        | 33       | 8                     | 23             | 4              | 43             | 1                   | 55   | Omega 1 Cancri ..                                  | 6                          | 4                               | 5        | 22       | A.M.   | Bright  | 76° N. & |
| 16                 | 1  | 16       | 10       | 15         | 8        | 25       | 8                     | 3              | 4              | 24             | 1                   | 34   | 42 Leonis .. ..                                    | 6                          | 4                               | 6        | 42       | A.M.   | Dark    | 1° N.    |
| 21                 | 1  | 6        | 9        | 54         | 8        | 17       | 7                     | 43             | 4              | 4              | 1                   | 14   |  | 6                          | 7                               | 2        | 22       | A.M.   | Bright  | 63° N. & |
| 26                 | 0  | 44       | 9        | 37         | 8        | 8        | 7                     | 24             | 3              | 44             | 0                   | 53   |  | 5                          | 7                               | 3        | 10       | A.M.   | Dark    | 21° S.   |
| 31                 | 0  | 9        | 9        | 24         | 7        | 59       | 7                     | 5              | 3              | 23             | 0                   | 33   | Omicron Piscium ..                                 | 5                          | 24                              | 9        | 46       | P.M.   | Dark    | North of |
|                    |  |          |          |            |          |          | 29                    | 10             | 37             | P.M. R.        |                     |      |  | 24                         | 10                              | 34       | P.M.     | Bright |         | 12° N.   |

NOVEMBER.



BATTLE OF ARGAUM, (WELLESLEY,) NOVEMBER 28TH, 1803.

| Day of Month | Day of Week                                       | ANNIVERSARIES,<br>FESTIVALS,<br>OCCURRENCES, &c. | SUN.   |       |        |  | MOON.   |       |       |       | DURATION OF MOONLIGHT. |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  | HIGH WATER<br>AT LONDON BRIDGE. |  | Day of<br>the Year. |
|--------------|---|--|--|-------|--------|--|---------|-------|-------|-------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-------|-----------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------|
|              |   |  | SOUTHS.  |       | RISES. |  | SOUTHS. |       | MORN. | SETS. | Before Sunrise.        | After Sunset.        | 0'Clock.  | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 12 | Morn. | Afternoon |  |                                 |  |                     |
|              |   |  | H. M.  | M. s. | Deg.   |  | H. M.   | M. s. | Deg.  | H. M. | Morn.                  | Height above horizon | Afternoon |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  |                     |
| 1 Th         | All Saints [beg.                                  | 6 55 16 17 24 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 33     | 10 15 5 46 62 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 2 15     |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 305                 |
| 2 F          | All Souls. Mic. T.                                | 6 57 16 18 23 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 31     | 11 28 6 34 59 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> 2 34     |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 306                 |
| 3 S          | [K. Wm. III. Id.                                  | 6 59 16 19 23 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 29     | Morning 7 18 54 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 2 49   |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 307                 |
| 4 S          | 22ND S. aft. TRIN.                                | 7 1 16 18 23 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 27      | 0 41 8 0 49 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 3 3        |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 308                 |
| 5 M          | Gunp. Plot, 1605                                  | 7 2 16 17 23 4 26                                | 1 50 8 40 44 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> 3 13      |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 309                 |
| 6 Tu         | Leonard   | 7 4 16 15 22 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> 4 24      | 3 0 9 20 38 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> 3 24       |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 310                 |
| 7 W          | Twilight ends 6h 21m                              | 7 6 16 12 22 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> 4 23      | 4 11 10 0 32 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> 3 35      |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 311                 |
| 8 Th         | Length of day 9h 15m                              | 7 7 16 8 22 4 22                                 | 5 24 10 42 26 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 3 45     |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 312                 |
| 9 F          | P. of Wales b. 1841                               | 7 9 16 3 21 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 20       | 6 42 11 27 21 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 0      |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 313                 |
| 10 S         | [L. Mayor's day                                   | 7 10 15 58 21 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 19     | 8 2 Afternoon 16 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> 4 19  |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 314                 |
| 11 S         | 23RD S. aft. TRIN.                                | 7 12 15 51 21 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 18     | 9 24 1 9 12 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 47       |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 315                 |
| 12 M         | Cam. T. d. [Half. Qr.<br>day                      | 7 14 15 44 20 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 16     | 10 41 2 6 10 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> 5 27      |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 316                 |
| 13 Tu        | Britius   | 7 16 15 36 20 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> 4 14     | 11 49 3 5 9 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 6 23       |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 317                 |
| 14 W         | Alpha Andromeda souths<br>Sh 27 <sup>m</sup> p.m. | 7 18 15 27 20 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 12     | Afternoon 4 5 11 7 32                            |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 318                 |
| 15 Th        | Machutus  | 7 20 15 17 20 4 11                               | 1 16 5 4 13 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 9 0        |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 319                 |
| 16 F         | [Q. Eliz. acces.                                  | 7 22 15 7 19 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 10      | 1 43 5 59 18 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub> 10 27     |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 320                 |
| 17 S         | Hugh, Bish. Linc.                                 | 7 23 14 55 19 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> 4 9      | 2 3 6 52 24 11 55                                |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 321                 |
| 18 S         | 24TH S. aft. TRIN.                                | 7 25 14 43 19 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 8      | 2 17 7 41 30 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> Morning   |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 322                 |
| 19 M         | Day breaks 5h 25m                                 | 7 27 14 30 19 4 7                                | 2 31 8 30 37 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> 1 22      |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 323                 |
| 20 Tu        | Edw. K. & Mar.                                    | 7 28 14 16 18 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 6      | 2 44 9 18 42 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> 2 48      |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 324                 |
| 21 W         | Prs. Royal b. 1840                                | 7 30 14 2 18 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 5       | 2 58 10 851 4 11                                 |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 325                 |
| 22 Th        | St. Cecilia                                       | 7 31 13 46 18 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> 4 3      | 3 14 10 59 56 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 5 38     |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 326                 |
| 23 F         | St. Clement. Old                                  | 7 33 13 30 18 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> 4 2      | 3 36 11 53 61 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> 7 4      |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 327                 |
| 24 S         | [Martinmas day                                    | 7 35 13 13 18 4 0                                | 4 5 Morning 8 29                                 |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 328                 |
| 25 S         | 25TH S. aft. TRIN.                                | 7 36 12 55 17 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub> 3 58     | 4 45 0 50 64 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> 9 48      |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 329                 |
| 26 M         | Mich. T. ends                                     | 7 38 12 37 17 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub> 3 57     | 5 40 1 47 66 10 52                               |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 330                 |
| 27 Tu        | Mary Adel. b                                      | 7 39 12 18 17 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub> 3 56     | 6 46 2 43 65 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 11 40     |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 331                 |
| 28 W         | Length of night [1833                             | 7 40 11 58 17 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> 3 55     | 7 57 3 37 63 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> Afternoon |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 332                 |
| 29 Th        | Beta Ceti souths 8h 4m p.m.                       | 7 42 11 37 17 3 54                               | 9 10 4 26 60 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 0 37      |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 333                 |
| 30 F         | St. Andrew  | 7 44 11 16 17 3 54                               | 10 23 5 12 56 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> 0 56     |       |        |  |         |       |       |       |                        |                      |           |   |   |   |   |    |    |       |           |  |                                 |  | 334                 |



## NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

Look Nature through, 'tis revolution all;  
All change—no death!

TRULY may it be said, that the "Almighty works in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform," when among the many astonishing secrets brought to light by aid of scientific research we read the following extract selected from an interesting addition to the "Illustrated London Library," called "The Microscope":—"Startling and almost incredible as the assertion may appear to some, it is none the less a fact, established beyond a question, by the aid of a microscope, that some of our most gigantic mountain ranges, such as the mighty Andes, towering into space 25,250 feet above the level of the sea, their base occupying so vast an area of land; as also our massive limestone rocks, the sand that covers our boundless deserts; and the soil that covers many of our wide-extended plains, are principally composed of portions of invisible animalcules. And, as Dr. Buckland truly observes, 'The remains of such minute animals have added much more to the mass of materials which compose the exterior crust of the globe, than the bones of elephants, hippopotami, and whales.' The stratum of slate, fourteen feet thick, found at Bilin, in Austria, was the first that was discovered to consist almost entirely of minute flinty shells. A cubic inch does not weigh quite half an ounce; and in this bulk it is estimated there are not less than forty thousand millions of individual organic remains! This slate, as well as the tripoli, found in Africa, is ground to a powder, and sold for polishing. The similarity of the formation of each is proved by the microscope; and their properties being the same, in commerce they both pass under the name of tripoli. One merchant alone in Berlin disposes annually of twenty tons weight. The thickness of a single shell is about the sixth of a human hair, and its weight the hundred and eighty-seven millionth part of a grain. The *Berg-mehl*, or mountain meal of Norway and Lapland, has been found thirty feet in thickness; in Saxony, twenty-eight feet thick; and it has also been discovered in Tuscany, Bohemia, Africa, Asia, the South Sea Islands, and South America—of this almost the entire mass is composed of flinty skeletons. That in Tuscany and Bohemia resembles pure magnesia, and

consists entirely of a shell, called *Campilodiscus*, about the two-hundredth of an inch in size."

As endless and varied as natural objects, are the sources of amusement afforded by the aid of the microscope. Through a powerful one, a fish's scale assumes the form of a scallop-shell; the pollen of a flower looks like small shot, a tripod, or a neat little box; the down of a butterfly's wing, a cluster of delicate campanula-shaped cups; its egg, an echinus; the tongue of a bee, a four-winged insect; the eye of an insect, a round piece of network; and the animalcule called cyclops, the form of some eccentric vegetable—as if an ever-grown radish had taken unto itself a set of jointed legs, a pair of spotted wings, a forked tail, a cluster of feelers, and had suddenly become gifted with the power of locomotion.

Ferns, lichens, and mosses, are beautiful objects for investigation; and at this season many are in full fructification, and in none is it more abundant than in the common polypody (*Polypodium vulgare*) which grows very plentifully on old hedges, and about the decaying roots of trees. On this, the fructification takes the form of small orange-velvet buttons; on the hart's-tongue (*Scolopendrium vulgare*) the seeds have a longer form; on the hard fern (*Blechnum boreale*), with its tough wiry roots, they are more diffused; on the maiden-hair spleenwort (*Asplenium trichomanes*) they are minute black dots. The seeds of *Polytrichum undulatum*, one of the vast tribe of mosses, require the aid of a microscope to be seen at all. The little green balls attached to the *under side* of the oak-leaf are the habitation of the genus *Cynips* (gall-fly), whose residence varies with every plant on which it chooses to rest; and all of them may be numbered among objects for closer inspection.

At this season, pupae of the hawk-moths may sometimes be found working their way up to the surface of their burial-ground. Smooth in appearance, and not, like those of the butterfly, angular in shape, they have the sucker—which in this family is very long—enclosed in a separate skin, or case, and projecting from the head:—

Contrivance intricate, expressed with ease,  
Where unassisted sight no beauty sees.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

NOVEMBER.—FIRESIDE LIFE.



To an habitual student of the fair face of Nature, it would seem a matter of no great difficulty, to detect in the varying expression of her countenance, the footsteps of time, as it silently treads onward, from one division of each annual circle to another. And not less distinctly may the close observer of our busy human life, trace its progress in the social peculiarities of the various months of the year. They present to our notice not alone the broad contrasts bearing relation to the important changes in nature from season to season, but also the same minute distinctions, which would, to the perceptions of many, render an October landscape quite distinguishable from the same scene beheld in November. Writers far better versed in the subject than ourselves, having gracefully spoken of the perpetual, though delicate transitions in nature, there are left us for discussion only the passing characteristics of social existence, and it is in its November phase especially, that we would now touch upon it.

England has always been acknowledged as the only country which can boast a fireside life; no imitations of it have flourished or matured elsewhere, for it is a concomitant of our abused climate, our national love of seclusion, and preference of comfort to safety. England then is the country, and November the especial season for quiet domestic enjoyment.

It is a tantalizing thing to a passer-by who may himself have miles to traverse before his bourne is reached, and no anticipation, perhaps, of any particular domestic pleasure when he does reach it, to follow the eager rapid footsteps of some complacent member of society; to see him stop with a smile full of self gratulation at the door of a prosperous-looking mansion, and obtain admittance before he has had time to demand it, through the instrumentality of a "wee thing," who has been flattening her face for an hour against the window pane, that she might give the earliest notice of "Papa's arrival." It must be acknowledged that, under all the circumstances, it is a trying thing, to catch a passing glimpse of well-lighted hall, and to see the glowing reflection of a blazing fire lighting up the form and features of the graceful "house mother," as she emerges from the dining-room to assist the rest of the household, in anticipating the wants and wishes of the master. And doubly irritating is it to the casual observer, when this little outline of domestic life has been by chance revealed to him, to have the curtain dropped before it, and to be mentally driven out like an intruder, as he is, from the most pleasant of life's "pleasant places."

But why should we, in our ethereal character of author, submit to the conventional restrictions which must limit the observations and disappoint the curiosity of the material looker on? Why not enter silently some tempting homestead, take our seat in some unoccupied nook, and note down truthfully all the little details, however prosaic in themselves, which make up the sum of fireside enjoyment? It is true we have all some acquaintance with it, but then it wears not the same face for everyone.

In one of the older suburbs of London, there is a pleasant open road leading remotely to the country, and more nearly to nursery gardens, turnip fields, and such semi-rural delights. Here has sprung up, within the last few years, a row of about a dozen white cottages, so small that each one seems to occupy no more than the space of one moderate-sized room, and yet embellished with many little external refinements which elevate their character, and seem to claim respect for their inmates. One there is, at the extreme end, which decidedly bears away the palm from its compeers, less by any superior grandeur of adornment than by trifling tokens of care and taste. No vivid representations of Crystal Palaces or Gothic castles, which, in the shape of blinds, appear so very popular in the vicinity, have found admission here; the green Venetian ones which supply their place form quite a refreshment to the eye, wearied with the gay diversity to be met with in the row. Neither are there any elaborate curtains, giving evidence of mere thought and labour devoted to their construction than to their cleanliness, to be perceived here; some plain muslin drapery of snowy whiteness serves to relieve the seasonable crimson damask, and to overshadow the arched window of the sitting-room. A few half-hardy plants adorn the window sill, and the few feet of garden ground, arranged as a miniature lawn, presents at this particular season a far more cheerful aspect than the ambitious flower-plots of the neighbouring territories. All looks so fresh, clean, and pretty, that as we gaze we become insensibly interested in the occupants,

It is about half-past four in the afternoon, but the day has been clear for November, and it is not yet dark; nevertheless, preparations are actively making in the little parlour, some twelve feet square, for the evening's comfort. A feminine form, attired in a close-fitting dress of dark merino, and looking as

trim and compact as could possibly be desired, is busily flitting about hither and thither. She is a bright, fresh-looking, damsels, we should say—but that a wed-ding-ring on her finger, and a small piece of lace, which she no doubt entitles a cap, ornamenting her brown hair, bespeak for her a due meed of respect as a matron. It would be useless to attempt a full and particular description of her personal appearance, whilst she is rushing in and out of the adjoining kitchen every moment; herself executing the voluminous directions about domestic matters, which pour forth from her lips, ostensibly for the benefit of the little maid some four feet high, who in her own small person evidently constitutes the whole retinue of the establishment. After a succession of journeys to and fro, and many a merry concussion between the mistress and her equally zealous assistant, the tea-table is spread in genuine country fashion. On the white cloth may be observed more than one substantial luxury, which confirms our half-formed impression that the mistress of the house is a farmer's daughter, and lead to the belief that her thoughtful mother has not rendered the arrival of a hamper of good things dependent on that of the Christmas season. Undoubtedly that goodly ham, rich honey, and crusty home-made loaf, do present a very agreeable *tout ensemble*. No wonder the presiding deity surveys it so often with a well-pleased smile, always rememering, as she does so, some omission to repair, or suggesting to herself an alteration, which may be an improvement in the aspect of things. By the time this department of the preparations is quite perfect, darkness has closed in; so now the curtains have to be let down and arranged, a matter requiring both time and attention to accomplish satisfactorily; for an attention to the beautiful, either for its own sake or for that of some one else who loves it, is evidently present here, and finds entrance into every detail. Finally, the comfortable cushioned Derby chair is drawn up to an angle between the fire and table—though not for herself. The chimney-piece receives a final arrangement, and a small plaster statuette, apparently a new acquisition, is produced, uncovered, and disposed to the best advantage on the mahogany chiffonier, where it has a row of neatly-bound cheap books for a background. The lamp is ready to be lighted at a moment's notice, the fire promises to blaze forth at a touch, and without undoing, nothing more can be found to do. She, therefore, takes up a half-finished collar, and, by the slender illumination of a single candle, works with nimble fingers but divided attention; for her every look and gesture tell of restlessness and anticipation. Her happiness, in common with the various comforts around, is to rise to full maturity only at some expected signal, for which we begin to feel almost as anxious as herself. The first symptom that our wishes are in a fair way to be gratified, is a hasty movement on the part of the young wife; she has received some mystic warning, and the grand illumination is accomplished before the swing of the little iron gate announces to our dexter faculties that footstep approach. The door is opened before the gravel path is half traversed, and now will that cold pedestrian, whose unhappy case we imagine, obtain, if he happen to be passing, a view of an interior which will not tend to place him on better terms with the external world.

It is needless for us to intrude on the proceedings which are taking place in the passage, or to note all that goes on there. Sufficient is it to remark an honest manly voice (a trifle louder, perhaps, than might be approved in the best society), giving assurance in answer to many inquiries, that "he cannot possibly be wet, as it has not rained all day," and also replying dutifully to minute examination touching a certain cold, which, it appeared, is under domestic treatment. Meantime the old coat and slippers have been donned, and the sacred Derby chair is at last worthily filled by the master of the house, whose appearance fully answers to the frank and sensible tones of his voice. No sooner is he seated, then the fire receives a supplementary stir, and glows and blazes as if to do honour to the real commencement of this day's fireside life.

Now is the mistress again full of active happy cares, making the tea, and over-looking some little hot viand preparing in the kitchen. She has scarcely time to give more than an occasional smile in acknowledgment of the quiet loving glance with which the husband's eyes follow her every movement. But soon all is ready: the table is pushed close to him—for he is ordered to move at his peril—and she places herself near him, where he can see her; for she knows, as we do, that her pleasant genial face is the best refreshment for him. The young couple have now both leisure and inclination to talk, and we may thus chance to gather up a few crumbs of information about their sphere in life. Judging from the quantity of news which is mutually related, it must have been a day unusually fruitful of events. First of all, "Willie," on his way to the brewery, where he is junior clerk at a salary of seventy pounds a year, had encountered an old school-fellow, just returned from sea, brim full of adventures and enthusiasm for his old friends. They had not time to talk much, so he is to pass the day with them on the morrow, which will be Sunday. The assurance with which this invitation is communicated by its author, and the plausibility with which the tidings are received, disturbed only by slight regrets that there are no greens in the house, speaks well for the good understanding existing between the two. Catherine is thoughtful for a minute or two; but her difficulties, if such they be, seem quickly solved, and she is quite ready to listen to the particulars of an interview between her husband and the "Senior Partner"—a magnate to them of no mean importance. He has spoken approvingly of the manner in which Willie's duties are performed (we are perfectly familiar), and alluded to advancement both in position and salary as no very remote prospect. When this pleasant theme is exhausted, it becomes Catherine's turn to relate the events of her day. The first was a letter from her country-home, insisting on a brief visit from them at Christmas, which is at once resolved on, if the ways and means can be devised with prudence. From this subject they wander off to the days of their courtship, and the various walks and talks which secure for the farm and its vicinity a place in their affections only second to their own little home. All this is pleasant enough to listen to, but would lose in the repetition; and, besides, we must not forget that the evening is wearing on apace. "Willie's" attention is just now arrested by that specimen of the fine arts on the chiffonier; and whilst he looks and admires, its history is unfolded. Catherine reminds him of certain small sums of money which he has bestowed upon her at different times, for the purchase of some personal luxury, the selection of which was intended to lure her away from home and the everlasting embroidery, as he calls it: here is the result of the aggregate amount. The reader, by the way, has heard a good deal of this same embroidery, and must be informed that a little private fund is accumulating by its means, which, we suspect, will be spent in the Christmas trip. Willie is a little jealous of his wife's exertions, but she is smilingly obstinate; and, on the present occasion, is so resolutely industrious, that he takes from the shelf a volume of a standard work, opens at the mark, and, drawing the lamp a little nearer, begins reading aloud according to his usual custom. They have both become so thoroughly interested and absorbed, that there is little prospect of seeing any further variation in their pleasures this evening; and, although we would gladly linger near them, it is time to bid an affectionate, though silent adieu, for our present object is attained. We have become acquainted with the fireside life of one English home; and, although all may not be so calm and peaceful—and even into this one trouble will erewhile enter—it is as certain that the dark side of every lot has its bright reverse, as that gloomy November has its own share of compensatory pleasures.

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

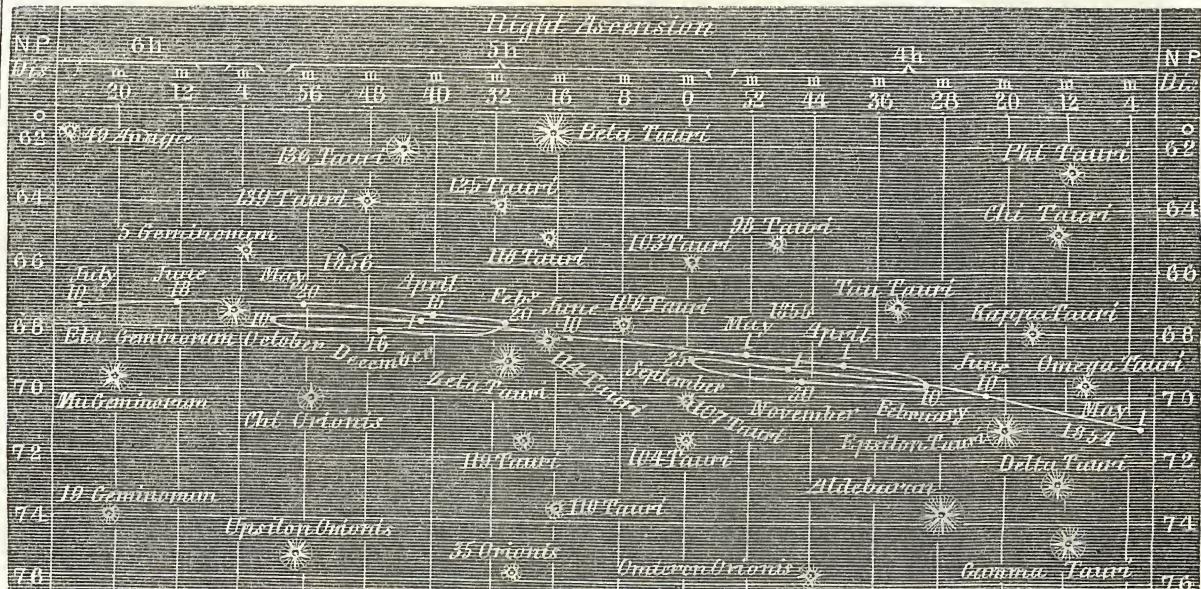
## NOVEMBER.

THE SUN is situated south of the Equator, and is moving southwards. On the 22nd, at 7h. 59m. P.M., he passes from the sign Scorpio (the Scorpion) to that of Sagittarius (the Archer); having been in the former sign 29 days 20 hours and 41 minutes. His distance from the Earth, on the 15th, is 93,919,600 miles. He

rises and sets on the 1st, at the E.S.E. and the W.S.W. points; and, on the 27th, at the S.E. by E. and the S.W. by W. points of the horizon respectively. He is eclipsed on the 9th; see page 55.

The Moon, on the 2nd, is in the constellation Leo; in Virgo on the 4th; in Libra on the 8th; in Scorpio on the 10th; in Ophiuchus on the 11th; in Sagittarius on the 12th; in Capricornus on the 15th; in Aquarius on the 16th;

## THE PATH OF SATURN FROM MAY 1, 1854, TO JULY 10, 1856.



Scale, 6 degrees to one inch.

in Pisces on the 18th; in Cetus on the 19th, and again in Pisces on the 20th. She enters into Aries on the 21st; into Taurus on the 23rd; into Gemini on the 25th; into Cancer on the 27th; and into Leo on the 29th. She is about 24° north of the Equator at the beginning of the month; crosses it, going southward, on the 6th; reaches her extreme south declination at noon on the 13th; crosses the Equator, going northward, on the 19th; reaches her extreme north declination on the 26th, and is about 17° north of the Equator on the last day. She is near Regulus on the 2nd, Mars on the 4th, Venus on the 6th, Mercury on the 8th, Jupiter on the 16th, Uranus on the 22nd, the Pleiades on the 22nd and 23rd, Saturn on the 25th, Castor and Pollux on the 26th and 27th, and Regulus on the 29th and 30th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Libra till the 8th; in Virgo till the 19th; and in Libra to the end of the month. He rises about half an hour after the Sun on the 1st; at 6h. 52m. A.M. on the 4th; at 5h. 31m. on the 13th; at 5h. 37m. on the 23rd; and at 6h. 6m. A.M. on the last day. These times precede those of the Sun by 9 minutes on the 6th; increasing rapidly to 1h. 45m. by the 13th; to 1h. 59m. by the 18th; and decreasing to 1h. 38m. by the 30th. He sets about half an hour before the Sun from the 13th to the end of the month. He is favourably situated for observation during the mornings of the latter part of the month, rising near the E.S.E. point of the horizon. He is moving westward among the stars till the 11th; is stationary among them on the 12th; is moving eastward from the 13th; is in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the 3rd; near Alpha Librae on the 1st and 21st; the Moon on the 8th; and in Perihelion on the 9th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in September.

VENUS is in the constellation Virgo throughout the month. She is a morning star; and rises, on the 1st, at 3h. 30m. A.M.; on the 10th, at 3h. 15m.; on the 20th, at 3h. 11m.; and on the 30th, at 3h. 17m. A.M. These times precede those of the Sun by 3h. 26m. on the 1st; increasing to 4h. 27m. by the end of the month. She is favourably situated for observation during the month, between the E. and the E. by S. points of the horizon. She is moving eastward among the stars; and is near the Moon, shining with her greatest brilliancy, on the 6th; and Spica Virginis on the 25th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in last month.

MARS is in the constellation Leo till the 25th, and in Virgo to the end of the month. He rises on the 1st at 1h. 1m. A.M., and on the 30th, at 3m. past midnight near the E. by N. point of the horizon. He soths at an altitude of 48°, at the beginning of the month; of 46° about the middle; and of 43° at the end of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 4th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in August.

JUPITER is in the constellation Capricornus till the 16th, and in Aquarius to the end of the month. He is an evening star; and sets on the 1st at 11h. 46m. P.M.; and on the 30th, at 10h. 7m. P.M., near the W.S.W. point of the horizon. He soths at an altitude of 24° about the middle of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near the Moon, and in quadrature with the Sun, on the 16th. For his path in the heavens and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

(Continued on page 53.)

| Days of the Month. | TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN. |          |          |            |          |            | JUPITER'S SATELLITES.                 |                                       |                     |           | OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON. |               |              |              |                            |                                 |
|--------------------|--|----------|----------|------------|----------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
|                    |  |          |          |            |          |            | Eclipses of                           |                                       |                     |           |                                    |               |              |              |                            |                                 |
|                    | Mercury.   | Venus.   | Mars.    | Jupiter.   | Saturn.  | Uranus.    | 1st Satellite.<br>Re-ap. R. Disap. D. | 2nd Satellite.<br>Re-ap. R. Disap. D. | Names of the Stars. | Mag. time | D. H. M.                           | D. H. M.      | D. H. M.     | D. H. M.     | At which limb of the Moon. | Between what Latitudes visible. |
|                    | Morning.   | Morning. | Morning. | Afternoon. | Morning. | Morning.   | D. H. M.                              | D. H. M.                              |                     |           | D. H. M.                           | D. H. M.      | D. H. M.     | D. H. M.     |                            |                                 |
|                    | H. M.  | H. M.    | H. M.    | H. M.      | H. M.    | H. M.      | 7 7 58 P.M.                           | 14 9 54 P.M.                          | 53 Arietis...       | 6         | 22 7 20 P.M.                       | 22 7 58 P.M.  | 24 5 41 P.M. | 24 6 8 P.M.  | Dark                       | North of                        |
| 1                  | Morning  | 9 21     | 7 58     | 7 1        | 3 19     | 0 29       | 14 6 23 P.M.                          | 26 6 17 P.M. R.                       | 6                   | 6         | 22 7 20 P.M.                       | 22 7 58 P.M.  | 24 5 41 P.M. | 24 6 8 P.M.  | Bright                     | 22° N.                          |
| 6                  | 11 19  | 9 11     | 7 49     | 6 43       | 2 59     | 0 8        | 23 6 18 P.M.                          | 30 8 14 P.M.                          | 6                   | 6         | 22 7 20 P.M.                       | 22 7 58 P.M.  | 24 5 41 P.M. | 24 6 8 P.M.  | Bright                     | 22° N.                          |
| 11                 | 10 48  | 9 3      | 7 40     | 6 24       | 2 38     | Afternoon. | 16 5 30 P.M. R.                       | 23 6 5 P.M. D.                        | 6                   | 6         | 22 7 20 P.M.                       | 22 7 58 P.M.  | 24 5 41 P.M. | 24 6 8 P.M.  | Dark                       | 39° N.                          |
| 16                 | 10 33  | 8 57     | 7 30     | 6 6        | 2 17     |            | 23 9 32 P.M. R.                       | 23 9 32 P.M. R.                       | 6                   | 6         | 27 0 43 A.M.                       | 27 1 48 A.M.  | 27 2 53 A.M. | 27 3 58 A.M. | Bright                     | 84° N. &                        |
| 21                 | 10 30  | 8 52     | 7 21     | 5 48       | 1 56     | 1 3        | 15 4 49 P.M.                          |                                       | 6                   | 6         | 27 9 28 P.M.                       | 27 10 24 P.M. | 27 2 53 A.M. | 27 3 58 A.M. | Dark                       | 11° N.                          |
| 26                 | 10 35  | 8 49     | 7 11     | 5 31       | 1 35     | 10 42      |                                       |                                       | 6                   | 6         | 27 10 24 P.M.                      | 27 10 24 P.M. | 27 2 53 A.M. | 27 3 58 A.M. | Dark                       | 73° N. &                        |
| 30                 | 10 41  | 8 47     | 7 3      | 5 17       | 1 18     | 10 26      |                                       |                                       |                     |           |                                    |               |              |              |                            | 1° S.                           |

| Days of the Month. | RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS AT MEAN NOON |                   |                 |                   |                 |                   |                 |                   |                 |                   |                 |                   |
|--------------------|--|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
|                    | MERCURY.   |                   | VENUS.          |                   | MARS.           |                   | JUPITER.        |                   | SATURN.         |                   | URANUS.         |                   |
|                    | Right Ascension  | North Polar Dist. | Right Ascension | North Polar Dist. | Right Ascension | North Polar Dist. | Right Ascension | North Polar Dist. | Right Ascension | North Polar Dist. | Right Ascension | North Polar Dist. |
|                    | D. H. M.   |                   | D. H. M.        |                   | D. H. M.        |                   | D. H. M.        |                   | D. H. M.        |                   | D. H. M.        |                   |
| LAST QUARTER       | 1  | 5 17 P.M.         | 6 14 19         | 103 13            | 12 2            | 92 21             | 10h. 38m        | 79° 40'           | 21h. 43m        | 104° 57'          | 5h. 59m         | 67° 47'           |
| NEW MOON           | ..   | 9 7 31 P.M.       | 11 14 8         | 100 55            | 12 23           | 92 43             | 10 59           | 81 42             | 21 45           | 104 43            | 5 58            | 67 47             |
| FIRST QUARTER      | ..   | 16 11 15 P.M.     | 16 14 13        | 100 51            | 12 37           | 93 24             | 11 10           | 82 44             | 21 47           | 104 34            | 5 56            | 67 48             |
| FULL MOON          | ..   | 23 7 51 P.M.      | 21 14 30        | 102 23            | 12 52           | 94 20             | 11 20           | 83 44             | 21 49           | 104 24            | 5 54            | 67 48             |
| APOGEE             | ..   | 3 10 0 P.M.       | 26 14 54        | 104 40            | 13 8            | 95 29             | 11 30           | 84 44             | 21 51           | 104 12            | 5 53            | 67 48             |
| PERIGEE            | ..   | 19 11 0 A.M.      | 30 15 16        | 106 37            | 13 22           | 96 31             | 11 38           | 85 32             | 21 53           | 104 1             | 5 52            | 67 48             |

DECEMBER.



BATTLE OF FEROZESHAH, (LORD GOUGH,) DECEMBER 21ST, 1845.

| Day of Month | Day of Week | ANNIVERSARIES,<br>FESTIVALS,<br>OCCURRENCES, &c. | SUN.   |    |                   |                    |                              |    | MOON.  |          |      |          |                              |                              | DURATION OF MOONLIGHT. |    |      |            |          |   | HIGH WATER<br>AT LONDON BRIDGE |   |               |             | Day of<br>the Year |   |            |          |         |          |            |     |
|--------------|-------------|--|--------|----|-------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|----|--------|----------|------|----------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----|------|------------|----------|---|--------------------------------|---|---------------|-------------|--------------------|---|------------|----------|---------|----------|------------|-----|
|              |             |  | RISES. |    |                   | SOUTHS.            |                              |    | RISES. |          |      | SOUTHS.  |                              |                              | SETS.                  |    |      | SETS.      |          |   | Before Sunrise.                |   | After Sunset. |             | Morning.           |   | Afternoon. |          |         |          |            |     |
|              |             |  | H.     | M. | s.                | Before 12 o'clock. | Height above horizon         |    | H.     | M.       | Deg. | Morning. | Height above horizon.        |                              | H.                     | M. | Deg. | Afternoon. | O'Clock. | 2 | 4                              | 6 | 8             | Moon's Age. | 4                  | 6 | 8          | 10       | 12      | Morning. | Afternoon. |     |
| 1            | S           | Gamma Pegasi s. 7h 26m p.m.                      | 7      | 46 | 10                | 54                 | 16 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 3  | 52     | 11       | 34   | 5        | 55                           | 51 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 1                      | 9  |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          |         | 6 50     | 7 19       | 335 |
| 2            | S           | ADVENT SUNDAY                                    | 7      | 47 | 10                | 31                 | 16 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 52     | Morning. |      | 6        | 36                           | 46 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 1                      | 22 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 7 48    | 8 25     | 336        |     |
| 3            | M           | Aldebaran s. 11h 39m p.m.                        | 7      | 48 | 10                | 7                  | 16 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 51     | 0        | 43   | 7        | 15                           | 40 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 1                      | 32 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 9 0     | 9 36     | 337        |     |
| 4            | TU          | Length of night 15h 58m                          | 7      | 49 | 9                 | 43                 | 16 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 51     | 1        | 54   | 7        | 55                           | 35                           | 1                      | 42 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 10 8    | 10 37    | 338        |     |
| 5            | W           | Beta Ceti souths 7h 40m p.m.                     | 7      | 51 | 9                 | 19                 | 16 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 51     | 3        | 6    | 8        | 36                           | 29 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 1                      | 53 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 11 6    | 11 33    | 339        |     |
| 6            | IH          | Nicholas   | 7      | 52 | 8                 | 54                 | 16                           | 3  | 51     | 4        | 20   | 9        | 19                           | 23 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 2                      | 5  |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | At Noon | No Tide. | 340        |     |
| 7            | F           | Alpha Arietis souths 8h 55m p.m.                 | 7      | 53 | 8                 | 28                 | 15 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 3  | 50     | 5        | 39   | 10       | 6                            | 18 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 2                      | 22 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 0 20    | 0 39     | 341        |     |
| 8            | S           | Con. B. V. Mary                                  | 7      | 55 | 8                 | 2                  | 15 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub> | 3  | 50     | 7        | 1    | 10       | 58                           | 14 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 2                      | 46 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 0 58    | 1 19     | 342        |     |
| 9            | S           | 2ND S. in ADVENT                                 | 7      | 56 | 7                 | 35                 | 15 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 3  | 50     | 8        | 23   | 11       | 55                           | 11 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 3                      | 22 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 1 38    | 1 58     | 343        |     |
| 10           | M           | Pleiades souths 10h 23m p.m.                     | 7      | 57 | 7                 | 8                  | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 49     | 9        | 36   | Morning. |                              | 9 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>  | 4                      | 14 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            | 2 20     | 2 40    | 344      |            |     |
| 11           | TU          | Twilight ends 5h 55m                             | 7      | 58 | 6                 | 40                 | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 49     | 10       | 35   | 1        | 57                           | 10 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 5                      | 23 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 2 58    | 3 21     | 345        |     |
| 12           | W           | Rigel souths 11h 43m p.m.                        | 7      | 59 | 6                 | 12                 | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 49     | 11       | 19   | 2        | 57                           | 12 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 6                      | 47 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 3 42    | 4 4      | 346        |     |
| 13           | IH          | Lucy   | 8      | 0  | 5                 | 44                 | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 49     | 11       | 47   | 3        | 55                           | 17                           | 8                      | 16 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 4 27    | 4 49     | 347        |     |
| 14           | F           | Alpha Ceti souths 9h 23m p.m.                    | 8      | 0  | 5                 | 15                 | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 49     | Morning. |      | 4        | 49                           | 22 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 9                      | 43 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 5 13    | 5 39     | 348        |     |
| 15           | S           | Gamma Oriouis souths 11h 41m p.m.                | 8      | 1  | 4                 | 46                 | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 49     | 0        | 24   | 5        | 39                           | 28 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 11                     | 9  |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 6 5     | 6 34     | 349        |     |
| 16           | S           | 3RD S. in ADVENT                                 | 8      | 2  | 4                 | 17                 | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 49     | 0        | 37   | 6        | 27                           | 35 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | Morning.               |    |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 7 2     | 7 33     | 350        |     |
| 17           | M           | Ox. T.e. [Ca.T.e.]                               | 8      | 3  | 3                 | 48                 | 15                           | 3  | 50     | 0        | 50   | 7        | 14                           | 42 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 0                      | 33 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 8 5     | 8 40     | 351        |     |
| 18           | TU          | Length of day 7h 46m                             | 8      | 4  | 3                 | 18                 | 15                           | 3  | 50     | 1        | 5    | 8        | 24                           | 9                            | 1                      | 56 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 9 15    | 9 47     | 352        |     |
| 19           | W           | Ember Week                                       | 8      | 5  | 2                 | 49                 | 15                           | 3  | 50     | 1        | 19   | 8        | 51                           | 54 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub> | 3                      | 19 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 10 22   | 10 55    | 353        |     |
| 20           | TH          | Aldebaran s. 10h 32m p.m.                        | 8      | 5  | 2                 | 19                 | 15                           | 3  | 51     | 1        | 38   | 9        | 43                           | 59 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 4                      | 43 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 11 28   | 11 57    | 354        |     |
| 21           | F           | St. Thomas                                       | 8      | 6  | 1                 | 49                 | 15                           | 3  | 51     | 2        | 40   | 10       | 38                           | 63 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 6                      | 6  |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            | No Tide. | 0 24    | 355      |            |     |
| 22           | S           | Rigel souths 11h 4m p.m.                         | 8      | 6  | 1                 | 19                 | 15                           | 3  | 51     | 2        | 40   | 11       | 34                           | 65 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 7                      | 28 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 0 48    | 1 14     | 356        |     |
| 23           | S           | 4TH S. in ADVENT                                 | 8      | 6  | 0                 | 49                 | 15                           | 3  | 51     | 3        | 27   | Morning. |                              |                              | 8                      | 36 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 1 39    | 2 4      | 357        |     |
| 24           | M           | Day breaks 6h                                    | 8      | 7  | 0                 | 19                 | 15                           | 3  | 52     | 4        | 28   | 0        | 31                           | 66                           | 9                      | 32 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 2 26    | 2 47     | 358        |     |
| 25           | TU          | CHRISTMAS DAY                                    | 8      | 7  | After 12 o'clock. | 15                 | 3                            | 53 | 5      | 39       | 1    | 26       | 64 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 10                           | 11                     |    |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            | 3 7      | 3 29    | 359      |            |     |
| 26           | W           | St. Stephen                                      | 8      | 7  | 0                 | 40                 | 15                           | 3  | 53     | 6        | 53   | 2        | 17                           | 62                           | 10                     | 39 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            |          | 3 48    | 4 7      | 360        |     |
| 27           | TH          | St. John   | 8      | 8  | 1                 | 10                 | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 54     | 8        | 7    | 3        | 5                            | 58 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 11                     | 0  |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            | 4 27     | 4 44    | 361      |            |     |
| 28           | F           | Innocents  | 8      | 8  | 1                 | 40                 | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 55     | 9        | 18   | 3        | 49                           | 53 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 11                     | 14 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            | 5 3      | 5 22    | 362      |            |     |
| 29           | S           | Pleiades souths 9h 8m p.m.                       | 8      | 9  | 2                 | 9                  | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 56     | 10       | 28   | 4        | 31                           | 48 <sup>2</sup> <sub>1</sub> | 11                     | 27 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            | 5 41     | 6 2     | 363      |            |     |
| 30           | S           | 1ST S. aft. CHRIST                               | 8      | 9  | 2                 | 38                 | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 57     | 11       | 37   | 5        | 11                           | 43                           | 11                     | 38 |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            | 6 19     | 6 41    | 364      |            |     |
| 31           | M           | Silvester  | 8      | 9  | 3                 | 7                  | 15 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> | 3  | 58     | Morning. | 5    | 50       | 37 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub> | 11                           | 48                     |    |      |            |          |   |                                |   |               |             |                    |   |            | 7 1      | 7 24    | 365      |            |     |



NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

Though boundless snows the withered heath deform,  
And the dim sun scarce glances through the storm,  
Yet shall the smile of social love repay,  
With mental light, the melancholy day.

WELCOME then, old December ! "wrapped well in weeds to keep the cold away!" Welcome, frost and clear weather ! and thrice welcome the bracing exercise in the bright, cold sunshine by day, and the blazing hearth and well-stored library at night !

While fancy, like the finger of a clock,  
Runs the great circuit, and is still at home.

And welcome, too, the "Happy, happy Christmas, that can win us back to the delusions of our childish days—that can recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth, and transport the sailor and the traveller, thousands of miles away, back to his own fireside and his quiet home!"

And numerous are the hearts to whom Christmas brings a brief season of happiness and enjoyment. How many old recollections and dormant sympathies does this season not awaken ? How many them meet who have but scanty intercourse at other periods of the year ! And, though the Christmas pastimes of our ancestors appear now to be neglected by society, in proportion to their polish, still, in many parts of merry England, Father Christmas is invited to reign with a little of his former spirit.

In a winter's night,  
When the soundless earth is muffled,

the yule log still sends up its myriads of bright sparks on the hearth, and its cheerful red tint on the surrounding happy faces. The holly, the once named "scarlet oak," is still considered as an indispensable addition to the garniture of home ; and

Fluttering bosoms come and go,  
Under the sacred mistletoe !

No ! the genius of Hospitality has not yet deserted the English fireside, nor has the joyous solemnity of Christmas ceased to warm the bosom of Charity—of that Charity which truly feels that, next to enjoying happiness, is the consciousness of having bestowed it on others.

There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth —  
To him who gives, a blessing never ceaseth !

The wandering waifs still chant "that antique music linked with household words," the true carol, instead of those tender airs from the last sentimental opera, with which we are aroused from balmy slumber during Christmas week by the less seriously-disposed minstrels of city streets. And yet, if our sleep has been healthful and pure,

Some chord in unison with what we hear,  
Is touched within us, and the heart replies.

So that, on the whole, we are rather pleased than otherwise, at being reminded that even so slight a relic of home and youthful associations *is yet permitted* to linger among us.

O the hearth of home has a constant flame,  
And pure as a vestal fire,  
It will burn, and burn, for ever the same,  
For Nature feeds that pyre.

And there, like a star, through the midnight cloud,  
Thou shalt see the beacon bright;  
For never, till shining on thy shroud,  
Can be quenched its holy light !

## THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

DECEMBER.—CHRISTMAS-DAY ON THE PAVEMENT.



Or the festivals and anniversaries which we are wont, in the course of the year, to celebrate with especial honour, there's scarcely one which, had it escaped our recollection, we should not be able, on its arrival, to detect, from some feature peculiar to itself in the aspect of the public streets. When merry bells are ringing from every steaple, and flags are waving from the summits of public buildings; when skeleton crowns, and as yet, untransparent transparencies, salute us on every side, and all the town seems wending westward, we do not require a reference to the last Gazette to satisfy us that it is the day appointed for the celebration of Her Majesty's Birthday. When, on a dark morning, towards the close of the year, we find ourselves unable to penetrate to our City engagements through the host of sight-seers who are pressing eastward, regardless of fog and mud, we do not require to be told that the day has arrived for the annual apotheosis of Civic Majesty. The Feast of St. Valentine, is in its turn legible as print, in the window of every stationer's shop we approach; the most unobtrusive street wanderer can require no warning of Twelfth Day: while the unwonted gloss of novelty which pervades the apparel of the holiday-makers one encounters on Whit-Monday, proclaims that Feast, as clearly as though every garment were a public advertisement of the fact. Even Christmas-day—so peculiarly the festival of home feelings and fireside joys, that it would seem to possess but little in common with the turmoil and bustle of the external world—is as distinguishable in its out-door dress, as any of the anniversaries which have preceded it in the year. Should we entertain any doubt upon the subject, we have only to sally out and satisfy ourselves.

It is on the stroke of eleven as we turn our steps eastward: yes! eastward it must be, for it is in the working-day world of town that we must look for the characteristics of which we are in search. Hyde-park-gardens and Belgravia turn not out of the even tenor of their every-day existence, be the occasion ever so moving. It is the misfortune of Fashion—ill-starred goddess that she is—that what is the relaxation and enjoyment of the ordinary world, is her daily toil and labour: she has no holidays. As we turn our steps, then, Cityward, the bells are ringing a cheery welcome to church, and streams of happy faces are responding to their bidding. Were it not for the branch of red berries which the greengrocer's boy is carrying down the area next door, and the apparition of the postman—that wanderer who seems to know no rest—we might fancy that we had retraced the course of time to some genial Sunday in the spring of the year. There is, however, something not altogether Sabbath-like in the aspect of things around us. Railway carts are busied in delivering hampers, which, it is to be feared, ought to have reached their destination on the preceding day; and the grocers' shops in by-streets continue to exhibit, in opulent profusion, masses of currants and stacks of raisins, for the convenience of improvident housewives, who may have failed to lay in the needful supply of those delicacies on the previous night. If such there be, however, they have no time to lose in completing their purchases; the church bells have ceased ringing, services have commenced throughout the length and breadth of the land, and myriads of voices are at this moment raised in accents of praise and thanksgiving for this holy day. We shall, however, observe nothing of that half-deserted appearance which characterizes the streets during morning service on a Sunday; for, as twelve o'clock approaches, the public thoroughfares are as crowded as they were at eleven. Clerks of genius, great-coated, comfortered, and railway-wrapped, as though bent on a polar expedition, are luxuriating in the fragrance of the "justly-celebrated havannahs at seven for a shilling," and wondering at the air of novelty which being out at so unwonted an hour imparts to the streets they know so well. Attenuate mechanics and sturdy laborers are doing their best, by a walk in the fresh air, to acquire an additional zest for the twelve pounds of roasting

beef, etc., which twenty weeks' self-denial, and subscription to their club, procures for them to-day. These, after all, are the genuine enjoyers of the season—to them the Sunday of the year. They have no bills to make up, with book debts of dubious value, like the worthy tradesman before them; nor is their enjoyment of the day impaired by any visions of similar unliquidated liabilities of their own, as may be the case with the gentleman with the rough coat and short meerschaum who is now passing. They are too well used to the uncertainties of life to have any solicitude about the future; they have a good dinner before them to-day, and with that knowledge are abundantly satisfied. How different is the deprecating manner with which you old man seems to appeal for excuse even for the liberty of participating in the free air of heaven. Who could mistake him?—a pauper from the neighbouring workhouse, enjoying, if enjoyment it can be called, his only holiday in the year. There are few, however—and it might be some consolation, could he but know it—even of those whom Fortune has used most kindly, who will see out this anniversary without their share of its shade as well as of its sunshine. To all of us, Christmay-day is as it were a resting place between the stages of a weary march; one of a series of landmarks on a lengthened journey, so prominent and conspicuous that we can cast our eyes back from one to the other to within a short distance from our original starting-place. The companions who travelled with us, the varied vicissitudes of our march—nay, even the feelings and hopes associated with each stage of our pilgrimage—rise up before us with startling distinctness as we look back upon it. That life has been a happy one indeed, in which such a retrospect brings with it only pleasure. We shall be safe in affirming that the party ahead of us has not yet arrived at this point in the day's experiences. They are on the "sunny side o' the wall!" It cannot, surely, be one family! No. Those two respectable, middle-aged gentlemen are evidently both heads of houses; so we will divide the rest of the party between them, taking care, for the sake of the picturesque, to apportion on opposite sides the younger male and female members who compose it. The youngest male unit, that urchin with his hand in his pocket, is, I imagine, somewhat in the way; his ecstasies of delight at the prospect of total idleness and late hours for three good weeks to come, have been but feebly responded to by his companions; nay, the damsel has snubbed him twice distinctly. He will, no doubt, retreat, to bestow his society upon the old folk; their conversation must be far less important, and they can, therefore, better afford to be tolerant. The mamma, it is to be observed, is not in either case visible; she, probably, "on hospitable thoughts intent," is busily occupied with the important domestic avocations of the day, and will be beheld by no mortal eye, till she makes her appearance, just before dinner, in all the glories of her best black satin.

As one o'clock strikes, the morning idlers begin to wend their way homewards, while those who have been employing their time more profitably, and have just come out of church, occupy, for a time, the walks they have begun to desert.

As two o'clock approaches, the streets begin to assume their busiest aspect, and we come upon one of the most important features of the day—the Diner Out! There is the first we have met, yon thrifty lady, with dress tucked up and basket in hand; she is probably an intimate friend invited to come early, and receive the guests; or a poor relation, perhaps, with a genius for custards. Soon we notice one or two more provident seizers of time by the forelock, coming intermittently, like the first drops of a shower of rain, till the stream becomes continuous. Nearly every one we now meet seems bent on testing the hospitality of every one else; the mystery is, who are the entertainers. The diner out of Christmas-day is markedly distinguishable among the ladies, from the circumstance of their always presenting themselves, cap in hand, like a debtor to a dun. What distinctions of taste in this important article of female costume should we not discover if those whitish-brown coverings could only be removed for a moment. Every variety, doubtless, we should find, from the cap that really is a cap, and means something, with a proper allowance of net-work and yellow flowers, such as we may imagine to be the object of care, with that respectable matron over the way; to the coquettish contrivance of wire and ribbon, specially designed to look as little like what it is as possible.

Another marked feature of the day in the streets is, that there scarcely one of the people we meet who is not the bearer of some substantial evidence of the genial influences of the season:—they are all carrying gifts, like the Kings of Satce. There are the donors of albums, pencil-cases, and similar conventional testimonials of regard, who seem desirous only of marking their general sense of the duties of the day by a gift of some sort, without deeming it necessary to exercise any peculiar discrimination in its selection. Others there are—but they are chiefly ladies—who exhibit considerably more judgment in the matter; and as of this class we may set down the bearer of that large tea-pot, which, though ingeniously muffled, presents its features with a distinctness wholly independent of concealment. The gift is one which, under ordinary circumstances, would hardly suggest itself as a Christmas present; and yet we might venture to affirm that there are deficiencies connected with the tea equipment of the friend for whom it is intended, which, could we know them, would satisfy us of the appropriateness of the gift. The papier maché work-table, which the young gentleman before us is bearing with so much care, would also at first sight appear a rather out-of-the-way tribute of regard. It is awkward to carry, and inconvenient for the purpose of presentation. But how good-humouredly he toils under his burden, and how carefully he guards it from injury: were it his own offspring it could scarcely receive more tender treatment. Stay! That is the secret! It is one of a description of gifts very common at the present day, a present in kind—a specimen of his own handiwork—the result, no doubt, of many a weary hour's labour, and many an anxious hour's thought. Is it intended for a married sister, or destined to serve as a propitiatory offering to the mother of some one in whom he takes a nearer interest? This question, must remain unsolved.

The strokes of each successive quarter after three o'clock, warn us more and more distinctly that we have accomplished the object of our walk, and shall now find little to amuse us abroad. The day, which has been bright and genial, begins to draw in, and looks as dark and cheerless as the most enthusiastic admirer of reasonable weather could desire. The pedestrians have, comparatively speaking, disappeared, and the limited business operations of which the day admits, almost exclusively connected with the agremens of the table, will, during the next two hours be entirely suspended. The period for the delivery of those humble delicacies which are dependent for their perfection upon the baker has gone by; and the tray of the confectioner, with its entremets, has not yet commenced its circulation.

Now and then some delinquent *early* diner that should be, hurries by, fiery red with haste, in all the agonizing consciousness of being twenty minutes late, with a punctilious hostess; or a perturbed lady, for whom we stop a Paddington omnibus, causes us a moment's disquietude, by persisting in depositing herself in an "Elephant and Castle;" but, with these exceptions, the monotony is almost unbroken. From five to seven there will be an increased bustle in cabs and carriages conveying the late diners to their engagements; and then, save the occasional vagaries, leniently to be judged, of some worthy who has enjoyed the day, "not wisely, but too well," all will be quiet for the rest of the evening.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

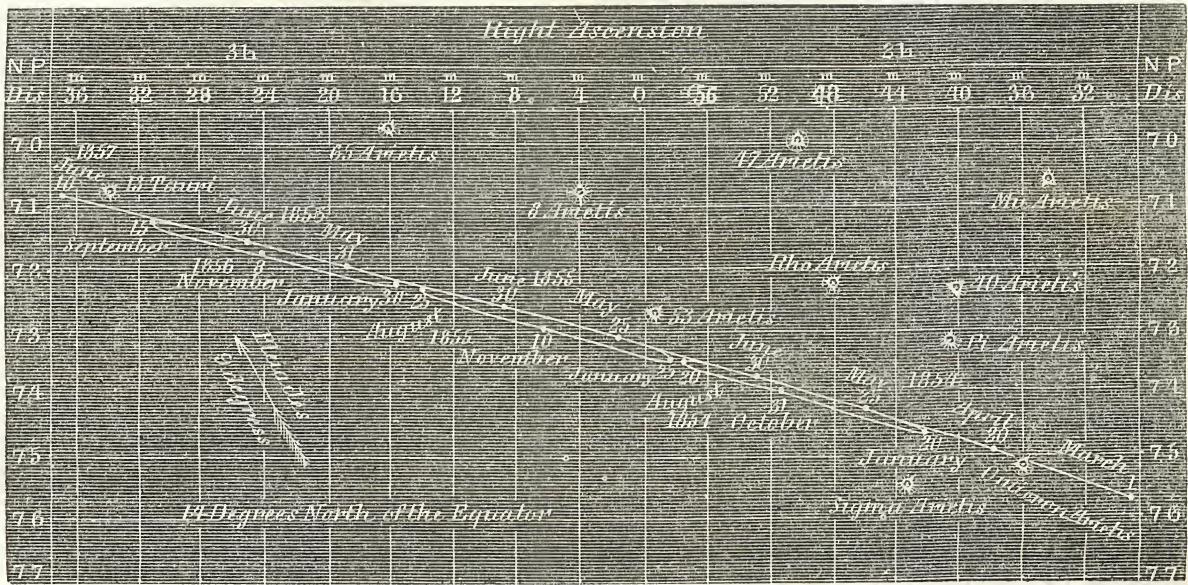
DECEMBER.

THE SUN is situated south of the Equator, and reaches his extreme south declination on the 22nd. He is in the sign Sagittarius (the Archer) till the 22nd, having been in that sign 29 days 12 hours and 49 minutes; on that day, at 8h. 48m. A.M. he enters the sign Capricornus (the Goat), completing the

tropical year in 365 days, 5 hours, and 49 minutes. His distance from the Earth on the 1st is 93,479,000 miles, decreasing to 93,407,000 by the last day, being the nearest approach to the Earth during the year. He rises at the beginning of the month about  $14^{\circ}$  S. of the S.E. point of the horizon; and on the 20th about  $4^{\circ}$  S. of the corresponding point.

The Moon on the 2nd enters into the constellation Virgo; into Libra on the

THE PATH OF URANUS FROM MARCH 1, 1854, TO JUNE 10, 1857.



Scale, 3 degrees to one inch.

6th; on the 8th into Scorpio; passing on the same day into Ophiuchus; on the 9th into Sagittarius; on the 12th into Capricornus; on the 14th into Aquarius; on the 15th into Pisces; on the 16th into Cetus; on the 17th she re-enters Pisces; and on the 18th passes into Aries, through part of Cetus; on the 20th she is in Taurus; on the 23rd in Gemini; on the 25th in Cancer; on the 27th in Leo; and in Virgo from the 29th to the end of the month. She is on the Equator on the 3rd; is at her extreme south declination on the 10th; is on the Equator on the 17th; is at her extreme north declination on the 23rd; and is on the Equator for a third time during the month on the 31st. She is near Mars on the 2nd; Spica Virgin's on the 3d and 4th; Venus on the 5th; Mercury on the 8th; Jupiter on the 14th; Uranus and the Pleiades on the 20th; Aldebaran on the 21st; Beta Tauri on the 22nd; Saturn on the 23rd; Castor and Pollux on the 23rd and 24th; and Spica Virginis and Mars on the last day.

the month. She is a morning star : rising on the 1st at 3h. 18m., A.M.; on the 8th, at 3h. 27m.; on the 16th, at 3h. 40m., A.M.; on the 23rd, at 3h. 54m.; and on the last day, at 4h. 9m., A.M. These times precede those of the Sun by 4h. 28m. on the 1st; decreasing to 4h. by the last day. She is very favourably situated for observation during the month. She rises about the beginning of the month near the E. by S. point of the horizon; and near the E.S.E. point about the end of the month. She is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 5th, Alpha Librae on the 22nd, about 14 degrees from Beta Librae on the 25th, and in Perihelion on the 16th. For her path in the heavens and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in October.

MERCURY is in the constellation Libra till the 7th; in Scorpio till the 10th; in Ophiuchus till the 20th; and in Sagittarius to the end of the month. He sets before the Sun throughout the month, and therefore is not visible during the evenings. He rises on the 1st, at 6h. 10m. A.M.; on the 8th, at 6h. 45m.; on the 13th, at 7h. 9m. A.M.; on the 18th, at 7h. 32m. A.M.; on the 23rd, at 7h. 52m.; and on the 27th, at 8h. 8m. A.M. These times precede those of the Sun by 1h. 36m. on the 1st; by 1h. 10m. on the 8th; by 51m. on the 13th; and decrease till, by the 28th, they coincide. He is well situated for observation during the greater part of the month, rising near the S.E. by E. point of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 8th; in Aphelion on the 23rd; and in superior conjunction with the Sun on the 31st. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in September.

MARS is in the constellation Virgo throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 0h. 35m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 0h. 20m. A.M.; and on the 31st, at 11h. 55m. P.M., near the E. by N. point of the horizon at the beginning of the month, and the E. point at the end of the month. He soths at an altitude of  $42^{\circ}$  at the beginning of the month, decreasing to  $37^{\circ}$  by the end of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 2nd and 31st; and Regulus on the 20th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in August.

JUPITER is in the constellation Aquarius throughout the month. He is an evening star; setting on the 1st at 10h. 4m. p.m.; on the 16th, at 9h. 18m.; and on the last day, at 8h. 36m. p.m., near the W.S.W. point of the horizon. He sojourns at an altitude of  $24^{\circ}$  at the beginning of the month; increasing to  $27^{\circ}$  by the end of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 14th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

(Continued on page 53.)

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON.

And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee) or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth is at the Junction.

| TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON,   |    |    |    |      |                    |                 |                       |                 |                       |                 |                       |          |          |         |         |        |        |       |
|---|----|----|----|------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------|----------|---------|---------|--------|--------|-------|
| And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee) or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth in each Lunation. |    |    |    |      |                    |                 |                       |                 |                       |                 |                       |          |          |         |         |        |        |       |
|   | D. | H. | M. | P.M. | Days of the Month. | MERCURY.        | VENUS                 | MARS.           | JUPITER.              | SATURN.         | URANUS.               |          |          |         |         |        |        |       |
| LAST QUARTER  | .. | .. | 1  | 22   | 11                 | Right Ascension | North Polar Distance. | Right Ascension | North Polar Distance. | Right Ascension | North Polar Distance. |          |          |         |         |        |        |       |
| NEW MOON  | .. | .. | 9  | 10   | 18                 | A.M.            |                       | 13h. 26m        | 96° 48'               | 11h. 40m        | 85° 43'               | 21h. 53m | 103° 59' | 5h. 51m | 67° 48' | 3h. 3m | 73° 5' |       |
| FIRST QUARTER   | .. | .. | 16 | 6    | 57                 | A.M.            | 15h. 22m              | 107° 7'         | 11h. 40m              | 85° 43'         | 21h. 53m              | 103° 59' | 5h. 51m  | 67° 48' | 3 2     | 73 8   |        |       |
| FULL MOON   | .. | .. | 23 | 10   | 39                 | A.M.            | 15 52                 | 109 26          | 13 44                 | 98 14           | 11 49                 | 86 41    | 21 56    | 103 44  | 5 50    | 67 48  | 3 1    | 73 11 |
| LAST QUARTER  | .. | .. | 31 | 0    | 4                  | P.M.            | 16 24                 | 111 27          | 14 3                  | 99 45           | 11 58                 | 87 38    | 21 59    | 103 28  | 5 48    | 67 48  | 3 1    | 73 14 |
| APOGEE..  | .. | .. | 1  | 7    | 0                  | P.M.            | 16 56                 | 113 4           | 14 23                 | 101 18          | 12 7                  | 88 32    | 22 2     | 103 11  | 5 46    | 67 48  | 3 1    | 73 16 |
| PERIGEE ..  | .. | .. | 14 | 4    | 0                  | A.M.            | 21 30                 | 114 13          | 14 44                 | 102 52          | 12 16                 | 89 25    | 22 5     | 102 53  | 5 44    | 67 48  | 3 0    | 73 18 |
| APOGEE ..   | .. | .. | 29 | 4    | 0                  | P.M.            | 26 5                  | 114 51          | 15 6                  | 104 24          | 12 25                 | 90 16    | 22 9     | 102 33  | 5 42    | 67 49  | 3 0    | 73 20 |
|   |    |    |    |      | 31                 | 18 40           | 114 54                | 15 28           | 105 52                | 12 33           | 91 4                  | 22 12    | 102 13   | 5 41    | 67 49   | 2 59   | 73 20  |       |

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

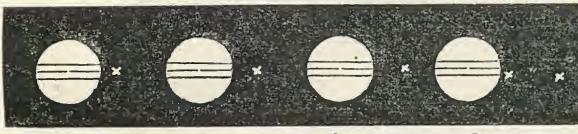
## ASTRONOMICAL APPEARANCES.

(JANUARY.—Continued from page 7.)

JUPITER is in the constellation Capricornus throughout the month. He sets on the 1st at 5h. 54m. P.M.; on the 15th, at 5h. 16m.; and on the 31st, at 4h. 37m. P.M., near the S.W. by W. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $163^{\circ}$  at the beginning of the month, increasing to  $204^{\circ}$  by the end of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near Mars on the 2nd, Venus and the Moon on the 18th, Mercury on the 25th, and is in conjunction with the Sun on the 30th. He is ill-situated for observation. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES are four in number, and revolve around him at different distances and in different times. That satellite which is the nearest to the planet is called the *first*; it is a little larger than our Moon, and its period of revolution is about 1 day and 18 hours; the next in order of distance is called the *second*—it is about the same size as the first, and revolves around the planet in 3 days and 13 hours; the next in order of distance is called the *third*, and is the largest of the four; it performs its revolution in 7 days and 4 hours; the farthest from the planet is called the *fourth*, and revolves round the planet in about 16 days  $16\frac{1}{4}$  hours. Till the end of this month the several eclipses take place on the eastern side of the planet; but, in consequence of his proximity to the Sun, they are not visible. The annexed diagram shows the relative distance from the planet at which the re-appearances take place this month. The disappearance of the 4th satellite takes place near the border of the planet.

RELATIVE POSITIONS OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES TO THE DISC OF THE PLANET AT THE TIMES OF ECLIPSE, IN JANUARY.



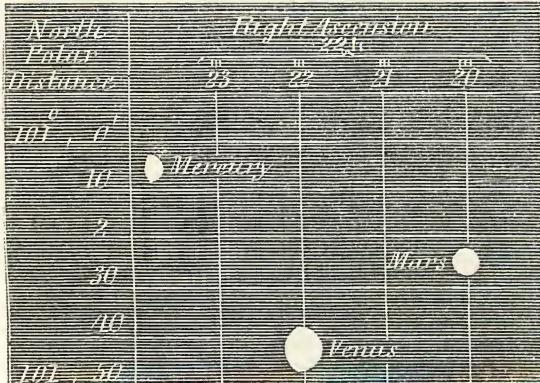
1st Sat.      2nd Sat.      3rd Sat.      4th Sat.

SATURN is in the constellation Taurus throughout the month. He is visible throughout the night; and sets on the 1st, at 5h. 51m. A.M.; on the 12th, at 5h. 4m.; on the 22nd, at 4h. 23m.; and on the 31st, at 3h. 46m. A.M., near the N.W. by W. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $583^{\circ}$  throughout the month. He is moving westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 27th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in November.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He sets on the 1st at 3h. 28m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 2h. 32m.; and on the last day at 1h. 29m. A.M., a little south of the W.N.W. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $53^{\circ} 50'$  throughout the month. He is moving westward among the stars till the 20th, is stationary among them on the 21st, is moving eastward from the 22nd, and is near the Moon on the 25th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in December.

(FEBRUARY.—Continued from page 11.)

RELATIVE TELESCOPIC APPEARANCE, AND POSITION OF MERCURY, MARS, AND VENUS, DURING THE EVENING OF FEBRUARY 8.



# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

as seen through an inverting telescope, at the distances shown in the annexed diagram.

RELATIVE POSITIONS OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES TO THE DISC OF THE PLANET AT THE TIMES OF ECLIPSE IN JUNE.



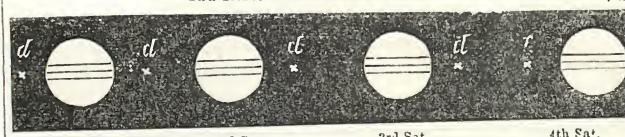
SATURN is in the constellation Taurus throughout the month. He rises on the 5th, at 4h. 13m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 3h. 39m. A.M.; and on the 25th, at 3h. 5m. A.M., near the N.E. by E. point of the horizon. He is badly situated for observation. He souths at an altitude of about  $60^{\circ} 22'$  throughout the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; is in conjunction with the Sun on the 10th; near the Moon on the 14th, and Beta Tauri on the 30th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in November.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He rises on the 5th, at 2h. 37m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 1h. 59m.; and on the 25th, at 1h. 16m. A.M., between the E.N.E. and the N.E. by E. points of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $55^{\circ} 38'$ , about the middle of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 11th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in December.

(JULY.—Continued from page 31.)

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES take place this month at the left side of the planet, as seen through an inverting telescope, at the distances from the planet as shown in the annexed diagram.

RELATIVE POSITIONS OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES TO THE DISC OF THE PLANET AT THE TIMES OF ECLIPSE IN JULY.



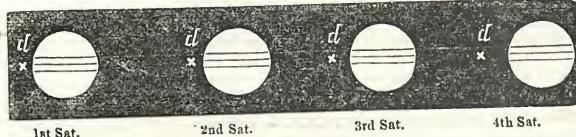
SATURN is in the constellation Taurus throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 2h. 44m. A.M.; on the 16th at 1h. 52m.; and on the last day at 1h. A.M., near the N.E. by E. point of the horizon; but is not well situated for observation. He souths at an altitude of about  $60^{\circ} 33'$  throughout the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near Mars on the 6th, and the Moon on the 11th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in November.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 0h. 58m. A.M.; on the 16th at midnight; and on the last day at 10h. 58m. P.M., midway between the E.N.E. and the N.E. by E. points of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $56^{\circ}$  throughout the month. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 9th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in December.

(AUGUST.—Continued from page 35.)

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES, during this month, take place very near to the border of the planet; and those which happen after the middle of the month, will take place at the boundary of the planet; till the 21st they take place on the left hand; and after the 21st, on the right hand of the planet, as seen through an inverting telescope. The annexed diagram shows the relative positions and distances of the satellites at the beginning of the month.

RELATIVE POSITIONS OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES TO THE DISC OF THE PLANET AT THE TIMES OF ECLIPSE IN AUGUST.



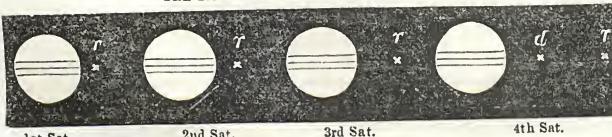
SATURN is in the constellation Taurus till the 26th; and in Gemini to the end of the month. He rises on the 1st at 57 minutes past midnight; and on the 31st, at 11h. 6m. P.M., near the N.E. by E. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $60^{\circ} 3$  throughout the month. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 8th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in November.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 10h. 54m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 10h.; and on the last day, at 8h. 57m. P.M., midway between the E.N.E. and the N.E. by E. points of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $56^{\circ} 8'$  throughout the month. He is moving eastward among the stars, till the 26th; is stationary among them on the 27th; is moving westward from the 28th; is near the Moon on the 5th; and in quadrature with the Sun on the 14th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in December.

(SEPTEMBER.—Continued from page 39.)

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES will take place on the right hand of the planet, as seen through an inverting telescope, at the distance from the planet as shown in the annexed diagram.

RELATIVE POSITIONS OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES TO THE DISC OF THE PLANET AT THE TIMES OF ECLIPSE IN SEPTEMBER.



SATURN is in the constellation Gemini throughout the month. He is an evening star; rising on the 3rd at 10h. 55m. P.M.; on the 15th, at 10h. 11m.; and on the 28th, at 9h. 23m. P.M., about  $2^{\circ}$  S. of the N.E. by E. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $60^{\circ} 2^{\circ}$  throughout the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 4th, and in quadrature with the Sun on the 23rd. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in November.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He rises, on the 1st, at 8h. 53m. P.M.; on the 13th, at 7h. 53m.; and, on the 30th, at 6h. 58m. P.M., midway between the E.N.E. and the N.E. by E. points of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $56^{\circ} 4$  throughout the month. He is moving westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 1st and 29th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in December.

(OCTOBER.—Continued from page 43.)

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES, when viewed through an inverting telescope, are seen on the right hand side of the planet, as in the annexed diagram, which shows their positions and distances at the times of eclipse.

RELATIVE POSITIONS OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES TO THE DISC OF THE PLANET AT THE TIMES OF ECLIPSE IN OCTOBER.



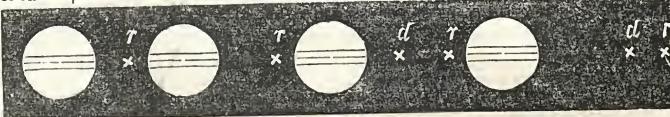
SATURN is in the constellation Gemini throughout the month. He rises, on the 3rd, at 9h. 4m. P.M., and on the 28th at 7h. 25m. P.M., near the N.E. by E. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $60^{\circ} 2$  throughout the month. He is moving eastward among the stars till the 11th; is stationary among them on the 12th; is moving westward from the 13th; and is near the Moon on the 2nd and 29th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram next month.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 6h. 54m. P.M.; and on the 31st, at 4h. 53m. P.M., midway between the E.N.E. and the N.E. by E. points of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $56^{\circ}$  throughout the month. He is moving westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 26th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in December.

(NOVEMBER.—Continued from page 47.)

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES appear to take place on the right-hand side of the planet, as seen through an inverting telescope, as shown in the annexed diagram.

RELATIVE POSITIONS OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES TO THE DISC OF THE PLANET AT THE TIMES OF ECLIPSE IN NOVEMBER.



SATURN is in the constellation Gemini throughout the month. He is an evening star; rising on the 1st at 7h. 8m. P.M.; on the 15th, at 6h. 10m.; and on the 30th, at 5h. 11m. P.M., near the N.E. by E. point of the horizon, and is favourably situated for observation. He souths at an altitude of  $60^{\circ} 3$  throughout the month. He is moving westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 25th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the annexed diagram.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He sets on the 1st at 8h. 4m. A.M.; and on the 30th at 6h. 4m., midway betw'een the W.N.W. and the N.W. by W. points of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of about  $55^{\circ} 36'$  throughout the month. He is moving westward among the stars; is in opposition to the Sun on the 11th, and near the Moon on the 22nd. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in December.

(DECEMBER.—Continued from page 51.)

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES appear to take place on the right of the planet, as seen through an inverting telescope, as shown in the annexed diagram. By comparing the several diagrams of Jupiter's satellites since September, it will be seen that the eclipses have, month by month, taken place at greater distances from the planet.

RELATIVE POSITIONS OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES TO THE DISC OF THE PLANET AT THE TIMES OF ECLIPSE IN DECEMBER.



SATURN is in the constellation Gemini till the 6th, and in Taurus to the end of the month. He is favourably situated for observation; rising on the 1st at 5h. 8m. P.M.; and on the last day at 3h. 4m. P.M., near the N.E. by E. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $60^{\circ} 41'$  throughout the month. He is moving westward among the stars; is in opposition to the Sun on the 18th, and near the Moon on the 23rd. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in last month.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He sets, on the 1st, at 6h. A.M.; on the 16th, at 4h. 57m.; and on the 31st, at 3h. 56m. A.M., about  $4^{\circ}$  S. of the W.N.W. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of  $55^{\circ} 4$  about the middle of the month. He is moving westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 20th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram page 51.

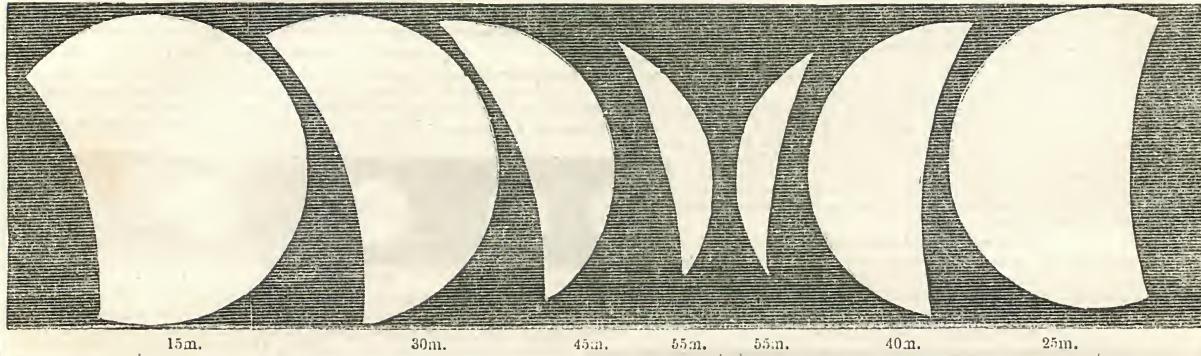
# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

## ON ECLIPSES.

As every satellite and planet is illuminated by the Sun, it follows that each should project a shadow behind itself, and of a conical form, the Sun being the largest among the bodies of the solar system.

The Earth and Moon, therefore, being opaque, round bodies, illuminated by the Sun, each casts a shadow into space: that of the Earth is projected between three and four times farther than the distance of the Moon; whilst that of the Moon extends as far as the Earth only when she is situated the nearest to the Earth, and falls short of it when she is the farthest removed.

SUCCESSION APPEARANCES OF THE MOON DURING HER ECLIPSE ON MAY 2, 1855.



After the beginning of the Eclipse.

The orbit of the Moon is not quite parallel to that of the Earth, but is inclined to it at an angle of a little more than 5 degrees. The two points where her path intersects the Ecliptic are called the Nodes. If the Moon should pass through either Node at or near the time of new moon, then will the three bodies—the Sun, the Moon, and the Earth—be in the same straight line, and an Eclipse of the Sun take place; and at this time, over certain parts of the Earth's surface, he will be partially or wholly hidden by the Moon, according to their apparent diameters.

If the Moon should pass through either Node at or near the time of full moon, the three bodies—the Sun, the Earth, and the Moon—will be in the same straight line, and an Eclipse of the Moon will take place, the Sun's light being hidden by the interposition of the Earth. The greatest apparent diameter of the Moon is about one third part of the diameter of the Earth's shadow, where it is traversed by the Moon; and as the Moon passes over a space nearly equal to her own breadth in one hour, it follows that the Moon may not only be completely obscured, but may continue to be totally eclipsed during the interval of about two hours.

Eclipses of the Sun and Moon can only take place near the Nodes, because at other times the Moon's distance from the Ecliptic causes her to pass above or below the Sun at new moon; and above or below the Earth's shadow at the time of full moon. An Eclipse of the Sun can therefore only take place at the time of new moon; and an Eclipse of the Moon can only take place at the time of full moon.

During the year there will be two eclipses of the Sun, and two of the Moon.

## ON THE ECLIPSES OF THE MOON IN THE YEAR 1855.

In those places where it is near midnight during the middle of the Moon's Eclipse, she will herself be situated near the meridian; at those places where the night is just beginning, she will be near the eastern horizon; and at those places where the night is just ending, near the western horizon. At some places, therefore, the Eclipse will be visible throughout its continuance; at others, the commencement only will be seen; and, at some places, the termination only.

The first *Lunar Eclipse* in the year will be total, and will occur on the morning of May 2nd, Greenwich time. Its commencement will be visible throughout Africa, the greater part of Europe, and the western parts of Arabia: the end will be visible throughout America, except near the N.W. extremity; but throughout Central America and the western coast of Africa, in Mexico, Canada, and a part of the United States, this Eclipse will be fully seen.

As all objects seem larger the nearer that they approach, the different distances of the Sun and Moon cause their apparent diameters to be different; this change is too small to be appreciated by the naked eye, but is easily determined by suitable instruments. It is thus found that the diameter of the Sun varies somewhat during the course of the year, according to the position of the Earth in her orbit, and that the diameter of the Moon varies during her revolution around the Earth. Consequently, it happens that when the Moon is at her least distance from the Earth, her diameter is the largest, and then exceeds that of the Sun; and that when she is at her greatest distance, her diameter is the least, and is at this time less than that of the Sun.

The following Table shows the times of the different phases of the Eclipse at various places:—

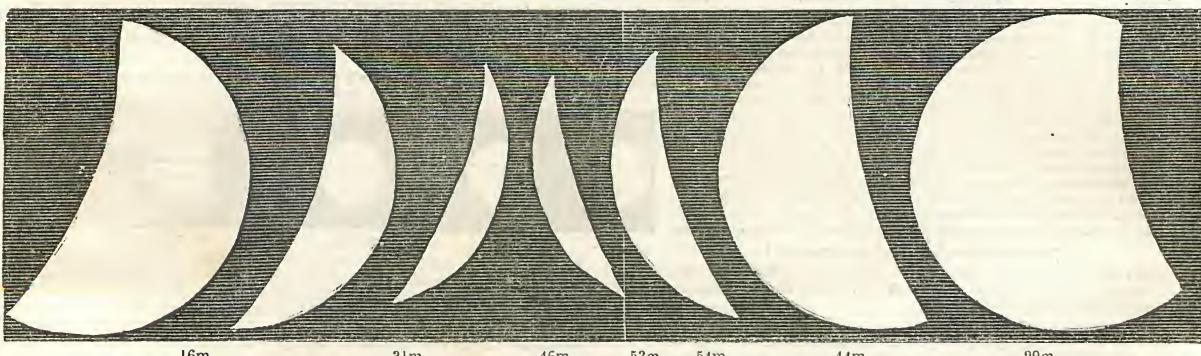
TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE MOON ON MAY 2ND, 1855.

| Names of Places. | Beginning of the Eclipse. |              | Disappearance of the Moon. |               | Middle of the Eclipse. |            | Re-appearance of the Moon. |            | End of the Eclipse. |
|------------------|---------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|---------------|------------------------|------------|----------------------------|------------|---------------------|
|                  | II. M. S.                 | III. M. S.   | II. M. S.                  | III. M. S.    | II. M. S.              | III. M. S. | II. M. S.                  | III. M. S. |                     |
| Greenwich ..     | 2 14 6 A.M.               | 3 16 42 A.M. | 4 4 48 A.M.                | 4 52 54 A.M.  | 5 55 30 A.M.           |            |                            |            |                     |
| London ..        | 2 14 29 ..                | 3 17 5 ..    | 4 5 11 ..                  | 4 53 17 ..    | 5 55 53 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Dublin ..        | 1 45 44 ..                | 2 51 20 ..   | 3 39 26 ..                 | 4 37 32 ..    | 5 30 8 ..              |            |                            |            |                     |
| Edinburgh ..     | 2 1 21 ..                 | 3 3 58 ..    | 3 52 4 ..                  | 4 40 10 ..    | 5 42 46 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Portsmouth ..    | 2 9 42 ..                 | 3 12 18 ..   | 4 0 24 ..                  | 4 48 39 ..    | 5 51 6 ..              |            |                            |            |                     |
| Oxford ..        | 2 10 3 ..                 | 3 10 39 ..   | 3 18 45 ..                 | 4 47 51 ..    | 5 59 27 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Cambridge ..     | 2 14 29 ..                | 3 17 5 ..    | 4 5 1 ..                   | 4 53 17 ..    | 5 55 53 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Liverpool ..     | 2 2 6 ..                  | 3 4 42 ..    | 3 52 48 ..                 | 4 50 51 ..    | 5 43 39 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Berlin ..        | 2 33 2 ..                 | 3 40 38 ..   | 4 28 44 ..                 | 5 16 50 ..    | 6 19 26 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Florence ..      | 2 50 10 ..                | 4 1 48 ..    | 4 49 52 ..                 | 5 37 55 ..    | 6 40 34 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Geneva ..        | 2 33 44 ..                | 3 41 20 ..   | 4 29 26 ..                 | 5 17 32 ..    | 6 20 8 ..              |            |                            |            |                     |
| Hamburg ..       | 2 51 0 ..                 | 3 56 36 ..   | 4 44 42 ..                 | 5 32 48 ..    | 6 35 94 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Marseilles ..    | 2 35 35 ..                | 3 38 11 ..   | 4 26 17 ..                 | 5 14 23 ..    | 6 16 59 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Milan ..         | 2 50 53 ..                | 3 53 29 ..   | 4 41 35 ..                 | 5 29 41 ..    | 6 32 17 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Moscow ..        | 4 41 23 ..                | 5 46 59 ..   | 6 35 5 ..                  | 7 23 11 ..    | 8 25 47 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Naples ..        | 3 11 6 ..                 | 4 13 42 ..   | 5 1 48 ..                  | 5 49 54 ..    | 6 52 30 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Paris ..         | 2 23 27 ..                | 3 28 3 ..    | 4 11 9 ..                  | 5 2 15 ..     | 6 4 51 ..              |            |                            |            |                     |
| Petersburg ..    | 4 15 22 ..                | 5 2 59 ..    | 6 6 4 ..                   | 6 54 20 ..    | 7 56 56 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Rome ..          | 3 1 ..                    | 4 6 31 ..    | 4 15 43 ..                 | 5 44 49 ..    | 6 46 25 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| F. Fernando ..   | 4 49 17 ..                | 2 51 53 ..   | 3 39 59 ..                 | 4 38 5 ..     | 5 49 11 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Stockholm ..     | 3 26 21 ..                | 4 28 57 ..   | 5 17 3 ..                  | 6 5 9 ..      | 7 45 ..                |            |                            |            |                     |
| Toronto* ..      | 8 51 40 P.M.              | 9 59 16 P.M. | 10 47 22 P.M.              | 11 35 28 P.M. | 0 34 4 ..              |            |                            |            |                     |
| Turin ..         | 2 41 54 A.M.              | 3 47 39 A.M. | 4 35 38 A.M.               | 5 23 22 A.M.  | 6 26 18 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Venice ..        | 3 3 31 ..                 | 4 6 7 ..     | 4 54 13 ..                 | 5 42 19 ..    | 6 44 55 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |
| Vienne ..        | 3 19 33 ..                | 3 22 14 ..   | 5 10 20 ..                 | 5 53 26 ..    | 7 1 2 ..               |            |                            |            |                     |
| Washington* ..   | 9 5 54 P.M.               | 10 8 30 P.M. | 10 53 56 P.M.              | 11 44 42 P.M. | 0 47 18 ..             |            |                            |            |                     |

\* At Toronto, and Washington the Beginning of the Eclipse, Disappearance of the Moon Middle of the Eclipse, and Re-appearance of the Moon take place on the 1st; but the end of the Eclipse occurs on the 2nd, at the times given in the above table.

As Lunar Eclipses are visible, and of the same magnitude to the whole of the hemisphere of the Earth which is turned towards the Moon, and above the horizon at the time, the above diagram will answer for all places.

SUCCESSION APPEARANCES OF THE MOON DURING HER ECLIPSE ON OCTOBER 25, 1855.



After the beginning of the Eclipse.

The first contact with the shadow occurs at 123° from the northernmost part of the Moon's limb towards the east, and the successive phases of the Moon, preceding and following totality, are shown in the preceding diagram. The last contact with the shadow takes place at 75° from the northernmost part of the Moon, towards the west. The Moon will set when totally eclipsed at Greenwich at 4h. 35m. A.M.; at Paris, at 4h. 44m. A.M.; and at Berlin, at 4h. 59m. A.M.

At the time of the beginning of the Eclipse the Moon will occupy the zenith of a place situated in longitude 35° 8' West of Greenwich, and in latitude 14° 50' South; at her total disappearance she is in the zenith of a place in longitude 50° West, and 15° South latitude; at the middle of the Eclipse she is in the zenith of a place in 61° 55' West longitude, and 15° 10' South latitude; at her re-appearance she is in the zenith of a place whose longitude is 73° West

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

and latitude  $15^{\circ} 20' S$ ; and at the end of the Eclipse she is in the zenith of a place in longitude  $88^{\circ} 30' W$ , and in latitude  $15^{\circ} S$ .

On October 25th, another total Eclipse of the Moon takes place. It will be partly visible only in England, owing to the middle of the Eclipse happening when the night is just ending, as in the preceding Eclipse. The commencement of this Eclipse will be visible from the western portions of Europe and Africa; it will be visible throughout Central and Northern America, from the north-western portion of South America, a large portion of the Pacific Ocean, and the north-eastern extremity of Asia; and the ending will be seen from Australia, and the eastern portion of Asia.

The times of the different phases of this Eclipse for many places are shown in the accompanying Table:—

## TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE MOON ON OCTOBER 25TH, 1855.

| Names of Places. | Beginning of the Eclipse. | Disappearance of the Moon. | Middle of the Eclipse. | Re-appearance of the Moon. | End of the Eclipse. |
|------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
|                  |                           |                            |                        |                            |                     |
|                  | H. M. S.                  | H. M. S.                   | H. M. S.               | H. M. S.                   | H. M. S.            |
| Greenwich ..     | 5 43 45 A.M.              | 6 19 45 A.M.               | 7 29 6 A.M.            | 8 13 24 A.M.               | 9 14 30 A.M.        |
| Dublin ..        | 2 19 5                    | 6 45 11                    | 8 13 47                | 9 14 53                    | "                   |
| Edinburgh ..     | 1 18 28                   | 6 19 25                    | 3 41                   | 8 49 2                     | "                   |
| Portsmouth ..    | 5 30 58                   | 6 32 42                    | 7 16 22                | 8 0 40                     | 9 1 46              |
| Oxford ..        | 5 39 18                   | 6 40 24                    | 7 24 42                | 8 9 0                      | 9 10 6              |
| Birmingham ..    | 5 38 39                   | 6 39 45                    | 7 21 3                 | 8 2 21                     | 9 9 27              |
| Liverpool ..     | 5 44 5                    | 6 45 11                    | 7 23 29                | 8 13 47                    | 9 14 53             |
| Berlin ..        | 5 31 42                   | 6 32 43                    | 7 17 6                 | 8 1 24                     | 9 2 30              |
| Florence ..      | 6 7 38                    | 7 8 44                     | 7 53 10                | 8 37 20                    | 9 34 23             |
| Geneva ..        | 6 24 45                   | 7 21 52                    | 8 11 10                | 8 58 28                    | 9 59 51             |
| Hamburg ..       | 6 8 10                    | 7 9 16                     | 7 53 31                | 8 37 52                    | 9 26 58             |
| Marseilles ..    | 6 21 35                   | 7 24 42                    | 8 9 0                  | 8 51 18                    | 9 9 24              |
| Milan ..         | 6 5 1                     | 7 6 7                      | 7 52 25                | 8 54 42                    | 9 35 49             |
| Moscow ..        | 6 20 29                   | 7 21 35                    | 8 53                   | 8 50 11                    | 9 51 17             |
| Naples ..        | 8 13 59                   | 9 15 5                     | 9 49 23                | 10 43 0                    | 11 44 47            |
| Petersburg ..    | 6 40 42                   | 7 44 48                    | 8 26 6                 | 9 10 24                    | 10 11 30            |
| Rome ..          | 6 23 3                    | 6 51 9                     | 7 38 27                | 8 22 45                    | 9 23 51             |
| St. Fernando ..  | 6 44 55                   | 8 11 4                     | 9 30 22                | 10 14 40                   | 11 15 46            |
| Stockholm ..     | 6 33 37                   | 7 34 43                    | 8 19 1                 | 9 3 19                     | 10 4 25             |
| Toronto ..       | 5 18 53                   | 6 19 59                    | 7 4 17                 | 7 43 35                    | 8 49 41             |
| Tarif ..         | 6 55 57                   | 7 57 3                     | 8 41 21                | 9 25 39                    | 10 26 45            |
| Venice ..        | 0 26 16                   | 1 27 22                    | 2 11 40                | 2 55 58                    | 3 57 4              |
| Vienna ..        | 6 14 30                   | 7 15 34                    | 7 59 54                | 8 44 12                    | 9 42 18             |
| Washington ..    | 0 17 2                    | 7 34 13                    | 8 18 31                | 9 2 49                     | 10 3 51             |

The first contact with the shadow occurs at a point on the Moon's limb situated at  $52^{\circ}$  from the extreme northermost part towards the East; her different appearances, both preceding and following totality, are shown in the preceding diagram. The last contact with the shadow occurs at  $104^{\circ}$  from the most northern part of the Moon towards the West. In England she will set when partially eclipsed.

At the time of the beginning of this Eclipse, the Moon will be in the zenith of a place situated in longitude  $99^{\circ} 40' W$  of Greenwich, and in latitude  $11^{\circ} 22' N$ ; at the time of her disappearance, she will be in the zenith of a place in longitude  $105^{\circ} 25' W$  of Greenwich, and latitude  $11^{\circ} 38' N$ ; and during the middle of the Eclipse she will be directly overhead in longitude  $116^{\circ} 7' W$  of Greenwich, and in latitude  $11^{\circ} 50' N$ ; at the time of her re-appearance, she will be in the zenith of a place in  $126^{\circ} 49' W$  of Greenwich, and in latitude  $12^{\circ} 2' N$ , and at the time of the ending of the Eclipse she will be in the zenith of a place in longitude  $141^{\circ} 34' W$  of Greenwich, and in latitude  $12^{\circ} 17' N$ .

## ON THE ECLIPSES OF THE SUN IN THE YEAR 1855.

It will be remembered that an Eclipse of the Sun, as before stated, is caused by the body of the Moon passing between the Earth and the Sun. If at this time the apparent diameter of the Moon be less than that of the Sun, and their centres be nearly in the same straight line, or nearly coinciding, it follows that the only visible portion of the Sun will be a bright ring, or annulus, round the body of the Moon. If the diameter of the Moon exceed that of the Sun, the entire orb of the Sun is obscured, and the Eclipse is total; if the centres of the Sun and Moon exactly coincide, the Eclipse is said to be central; and if the diameters of the two luminaries be the same, the Eclipse will be total, but for a moment only: when the centres do not coincide, a partial Eclipse occurs.

During the year 1855 there will be two partial Eclipses of the Sun, but both invisible in England.

The First occurs on May 16th, when about three-fourths of the Sun will be obscured. The Greenwich, Paris, and other times at which the Eclipse begins, at the greatest obscuration, and the times of ending, are given in the following Table:—

## PARTIAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUN, MAY 15TH AND 16TH, 1855.

| Names of Places. | Beginning of the Eclipse. | Middle of the Eclipse. | End of the Eclipse. | D. H. M. S.      |
|------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|                  |                           |                        |                     | D. H. M. S.      |
| London ..        | 16 0 3 11 A.M.            | 16 2 1 29 A.M.         | 16 3 59 53 A.M.     | 16 3 59 53 A.M.  |
| Dublin ..        | 15 11 37 26 P.M.          | 16 1 35 44             | 16 3 34 8           | 16 3 34 8        |
| Edinburgh ..     | 15 11 50 4                | 16 1 48 22             | 16 3 46 46          | 16 3 46 46       |
| Berlin ..        | 15 0 26 41 A.M.           | 16 2 25 2              | 15 4 23 76          | 15 4 23 76       |
| Florence ..      | 15 0 47 52                | 16 2 45 10             | 16 4 44 34          | 16 4 44 34       |
| Geneva ..        | 16 0 27 25                | 16 2 25 44             | 16 4 34 8           | 16 4 34 8        |
| Hamburg ..       | 16 0 42 42                | 16 2 41 0              | 16 4 30 24          | 16 2 41 0        |
| Marseilles ..    | 15 0 24 17                | 16 2 22 37             | 16 5 20 59          | 16 5 20 59       |
| Milan ..         | 16 0 39 35                | 16 2 27 53             | 16 4 36 17          | 16 4 36 17       |
| Moscow ..        | 16 33 35 3                | 16 3 31 23             | 16 6 29 47          | 16 6 29 47       |
| Naples ..        | 16 0 59 48                | 16 2 58 6              | 16 4 56 30          | 16 4 56 30       |
| Paris ..         | 16 0 12 9                 | 16 2 10 27             | 16 4 58 1           | 16 4 58 1        |
| Petersburg ..    | 16 2 4 4                  | 16 4 2 22              | 16 6 0 46           | 16 6 0 46        |
| Rome ..          | 16 0 52 43                | 16 2 51 1              | 16 4 49 25          | 16 4 49 25       |
| St. Fernando ..  | 15 11 37 59 P.M.          | 16 1 35 17             | 16 3 34 41          | 16 3 34 41       |
| Stockholm ..     | 16 1 15 3 A.M.            | 16 3 13 21             | 16 5 11 45          | 16 5 11 45       |
| Toronto ..       | 15 6 45 22 P.M.           | 15 8 43 40 P.M.        | 15 10 42 4 P.M.     | 15 10 42 4 P.M.  |
| Turin ..         | 16 0 33 56 A.M.           | 16 2 31 54 A.M.        | 16 4 30 18 A.M.     | 16 4 30 18 A.M.  |
| Venice ..        | 16 0 52 13                | 16 2 50 31             | 16 4 48 55          | 16 4 48 55       |
| Vienna ..        | 16 1 8 20                 | 16 3 6 38              | 16 5 5 2            | 16 5 5 2         |
| Washington ..    | 16 6 54 36 P.M.           | 15 8 52 54 P.M.        | 15 10 51 18 P.M.    | 15 10 51 18 P.M. |

The Eclipse begins in longitude  $78^{\circ} 56' E$  of Greenwich, and in latitude  $25^{\circ} 33' N$ . At the time of the middle of the Eclipse, in longitude  $16^{\circ} 27'$  East of Greenwich, and in latitude  $63^{\circ} 7' N$ ; and the Eclipse ends in longitude  $114^{\circ} 25' W$ , and latitude  $60^{\circ} 9' N$ . The Eclipse will be visible over Asia, the greater part of the Russian Empire, partly over Sweden, and the northern parts of North America.

The Second Eclipse of the Sun, and the last in the year, takes place on November 9, but is visible only in the Indian and Great Southern Oceans, and over

the western part of Australia. At the time of greatest obscuration, nearly one half of the Sun will be eclipsed.

The Eclipse begins in longitude  $171^{\circ} 40' E$  of Greenwich, and latitude  $31^{\circ} 20' S$ ; the greatest Eclipse, in longitude  $121^{\circ} 5' E$  of Greenwich, and in  $62^{\circ} 36' S$  latitude; and ends in  $2^{\circ} 34' E$  of Greenwich, and in  $68^{\circ} 51' S$  latitude.

The mean times at which the Eclipse takes place for various places are as follow:—

## PARTIAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUN, NOVEMBER 9TH, 1855.

| Names of Places. | Beginning of the Eclipse. | Middle of the Eclipse. | End of the Eclipse. |
|------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| H. M. S.         | H. M. S.                  | H. M. S.               | H. M. S.            |
| London ..        | 5 35 29 P.M.              | 7 17 23 P.M.           | 8 59 23 P.M.        |
| Dublin ..        | 5 49 41                   | 6 51 34                | 8 33 38             |
| Edinburgh ..     | 5 22 22                   | 7 4 16                 | 8 46 16             |
| Berlin ..        | 5 59 2                    | 7 40 58                | 9 21 56             |
| Florence ..      | 6 20 33                   | 8 2 27                 | 9 41 27             |
| Geneva ..        | 5 59 41                   | 7 41 38                | 9 13 34             |
| Hamburg ..       | 6 15 0                    | 7 46 54                | 9 38 54             |
| Marseilles ..    | 5 56 35                   | 7 33 29                | 9 38 47             |
| Milan ..         | 6 15 5                    | 7 43 47                | 9 38 17             |
| Moscow ..        | 8 5 23                    | 9 47 47                | 11 19 17            |
| Naples ..        | 5 32 6                    | 7 14 0                 | 8 56 0              |
| Pisa ..          | 5 41 27                   | 7 26 21                | 9 8 21              |
| Petersburg ..    | 7 36 22                   | 9 18 16                | 11 0 16             |
| Rome ..          | 6 25 1                    | 8 6 55                 | 9 45 55             |
| St. Fernando ..  | 5 10 27                   | 6 52 11                | 8 31 11             |
| Stockholm ..     | 6 47 21                   | 8 39 15                | 10 11 15            |
| Toronto ..       | 0 17 40                   | 1 59 34                | 3 41 34             |
| Turin ..         | 6 5 54                    | 7 47 48                | 9 29 48             |
| Venice ..        | 6 21 31                   | 8 6 25                 | 9 48 5              |
| Vienna ..        | 6 40 33                   | 8 22 35                | 10 4 32             |
| Washington ..    | 0 24 51                   | 2 8 48                 | 3 50 48             |

## TIMES OF THE POLE STAR (POLARIS) BEING ON THE MERIDIAN, OR DUE NORTH, DURING THE YEAR 1855.

The Pole Star is situated at the angular distance of  $1^{\circ} 20'$  from the Pole, and describes a circle at this distance around this point. If we suppose a star there placed, it would be stationary. The Pole Star not being so placed, is not always North: at times, when at its eastern or western extreme position, called elongations, it is  $1^{\circ} 20'$  from North, and is due North only when it is on the Meridian, either when passing at its upper culmination or at its lower culmination. These times, for the 1st and 15th of every month during the year 1855, are shown in the following Table:—

|  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| Jan. 1 at 6 24 50 A.M. below the Pole, and at 6 22 58 P.M. above the Pole. | H. M. S.                 |
| 15 5 29 42   | 5 27 43                  |
| Feb. 1 4 22 17   | 4 20 19                  |
| 15 3 27 24   | 3 25 26                  |
| March 1 2 32 12  | 2 30 14                  |
| 15 1 37 4  | 1 33 6                   |
| April 1 0 30 10  | 0 28 12                  |
| 15 11 33 10  | 11 31 13 below the Pole. |
| May 1 10 30 20   | 10 28 23                 |
| 15 9 35 25   | 9 33 27                  |
| June 1 8 28 45   | 8 26 47                  |
| 15 7 33 53   | 7 31 56                  |
| July 1 6 31 12   | 6 29 15                  |
| 15 5 36 21   | 5 34 24                  |
| Aug. 1 4 29 44   | 4 27 47                  |
| 15 3 34 52   | 3 32 54                  |
| Sept. 1 2 28 11  | 2 26 14                  |
| 15 1 33 15   | 1 31 17                  |
| Oct. 1 0 30 25   | 0 28 27                  |
| 15 11 33 26  | 11 31 28 above the Pole. |
| Nov. 1 10 26 34  | 10 24 36                 |
| 15 9 31 27   | 9 29 28                  |
| Dec. 1 8 28 21   | 8 26 26                  |
| 15 7 33 12   | 7 31 14                  |
| 31 6 30 5  | 6 28 7                   |

From these, the times may be calculated for any day in the year.

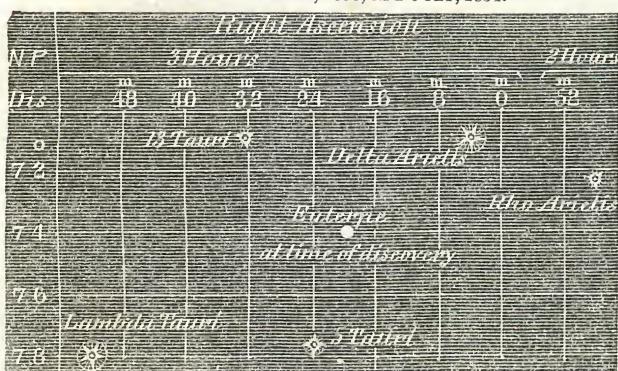
## LIST OF SMALL PLANETS SITUATED BETWEEN THE ORBITS OF MARS AND JUPITER.

|               |                      |                        |
|---------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Ceres ..      | discovered by Piazzi | .. 1801, January 1.    |
| Pallas ..     | Olbers               | .. 1802, March 28.     |
| Juno ..       | Harding              | .. 1804, September 1.  |
| Vesta ..      | Olbers               | .. 1807, March 29.     |
| Astroix ..    | Hencke               | .. 1845, December 8.   |
| Iube ..       | Hencke               | .. 1847, July 1.       |
| Iris ..       | Hind                 | .. 1847, August 13.    |
| Flora ..      | Hind                 | .. 1847, October 18.   |
| Melis ..      | Graham               | .. 1848, April 26.     |
| Hygeia ..     | De Gasparis          | .. 1849, April 12.     |
| Parthenope .. | De Gasparis          | .. 1850, May 11.       |
| Victoria ..   | Hind                 | .. 1850, September 13. |
| Egeria ..     | De Gasparis          | .. 1850, November 2.   |
| Irene ..      | Hind                 | .. 1851, May 19.       |
| Eunomia ..    | De Gasparis          | .. 1851, July 29.      |
| Psyche ..     | De Gaspari           | .. 1852, March 17.     |
| Thetis ..     | Luther               | .. 1852, April 17.     |
| Melpomene ..  | Hind                 | .. 1852, June 24.      |
| Fortuna ..    | Hind                 | .. 1852, August 22.    |
| Massilia ..   | De Gasparis          | .. 1852, September 19. |
| Lutetia ..    | Goldschmidt          | .. 1852, November 15.  |
| Calliope ..   | Hind                 | .. 1852, November 16.  |
| Thalia ..     | Hind                 | .. 1852, December 15.  |
| Themis ..     | De Gasparis          | .. 1852, April 5.      |
| Phoebe ..     | Chacornac            | .. 1853, April 6.      |
| Proserpine .. | Luther               | .. 1853, May 5.        |
| Euterpe ..    | Hind                 | .. 1853, November 8.   |
| Bellona ..    | Luther               | .. 1854, March 1.      |
| Amphitrite .. | Marth                | .. 1854, March 2.      |
| Urania ..     | Hind                 | .. 1854, July 22.      |
| .... ..       | Ferguson             | .. 1854, September 3.  |

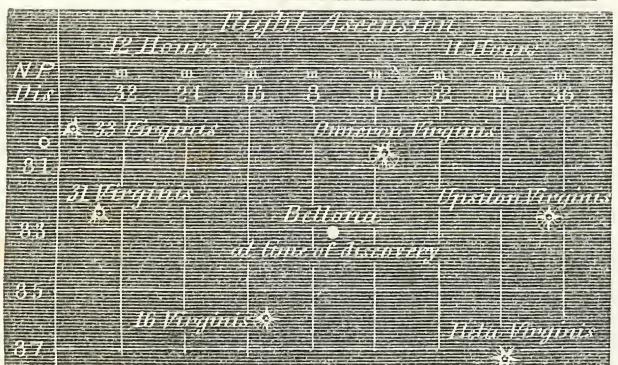
In all Thirty-one Planets.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

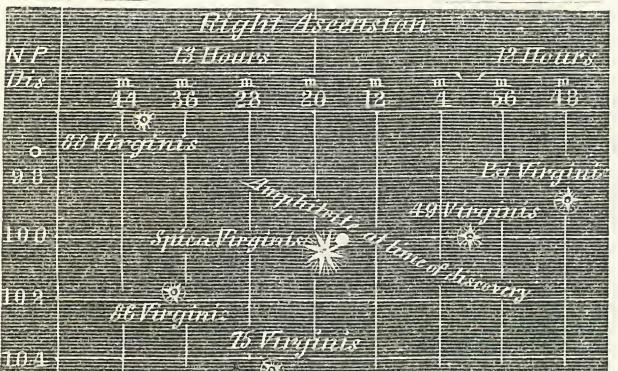
DISCOVERY OF FOUR NEW PLANETS  
BETWEEN NOVEMBER, 1853, AND JULY, 1854.



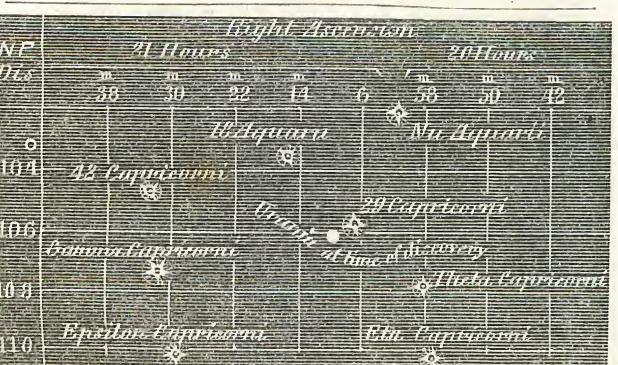
PLACE IN THE HEAVENS OCCUPIED BY THE NEW PLANET EUTERPE, ON ITS DISCOVERY BY J. R. HIND, ESQ., 8TH NOVEMBER, 1853.



PLACE IN THE HEAVENS OCCUPIED BY THE NEW PLANET BELLONA, ON ITS DISCOVERY BY M. LUTHER, 1ST MARCH, 1854.



PLACE IN THE HEAVENS OCCUPIED BY THE NEW PLANET AMPHITRITE, ON ITS DISCOVERY BY ALBERT MARTH, ESQ., 2ND MARCH, 1854.



PLACE IN THE HEAVENS OCCUPIED BY THE NEW PLANET URANIA, ON ITS DISCOVERY BY J. R. HIND, ESQ., 22ND JULY, 1854.

AN EXPLANATORY TABLE OF THE  
PUBLIC ACTS OF PARLIAMENT  
PASSED IN THE SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH YEARS OF  
HER MAJESTY'S REIGN, 1853-4.

\* \* \* The date after each Act records the exact time of its passing.

- Cap. 1. An Act to Explain and Amend an Act of the last Session, the 16 and 17 Vic., c. 90, relating to the Duties of Assessed Taxes, and to Authorise Justices of the Peace in Ireland to Administer Oaths required in matters relating to the Income-tax. 17th Feb.
2. An Act to Apply the Sum of £8,000,000 out of the Consolidated Fund to the Service of 1854. 23rd March.
3. An Act for Raising £1,750,000, by Exchequer-bills, for the Service of the Year 1854. 23rd March.
4. An Act for Punishing Mutiny and Desertion, and for the Better Payment of the Army and their Quarters. The annual Act relating to the Army. 23rd March.
5. An Act to Admit Foreign Ships to the Coasting-trade. 23rd March. This Statute removes the restriction by which goods or passengers going coastwise from one part of the United Kingdom to another could only be carried in British ships. Goods and passengers may for the future be so carried in foreign ships also.
6. An Act for the Regulation of her Majesty's Royal Marine Forces while on Shore. 23rd March. The usual annual Act.
7. An Act for Extending, until one month at least, before the 25th March, 1855, the time limited for putting into execution the 14 and 15 Vic., c. 16, for the better Management and Control of Highways in South Wales. 12th May.
8. An Act further to Amend the 15 and 16 Vic., c. 63, relating to the Valuation of Rateable Property in Ireland. 12th May.
9. An Act to Authorise the Inclosure of certain Lands, in pursuance of a Report of the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales. 12th May. The following are the inclosures to be made under this Statute:—Heaver's Wood Common, Surrey; Lampeter-pont-Stephen, Cardigan, Cardiganshire; Iping, Sussex; Barby, Yorkshire; Church Brough In-take, Westmorland; Curridge, Bursledon, the Oakcups Woods, Hants; Porlock, Wootton, Courtney Hawridge, Somersetshire; Tinhead, Wilts.
10. An Act for Granting to her Majesty Additional Duties on Profits Arising from Property, Professions, Trades, and Offices. 12th May.
11. An Act to Amend the Laws Relating in Ireland to Ministers' Money and the Irish Church Temporalities. 12th May. By this Statute the charge known as Ministers' Money is to cease after the 1st October, 1854, and a house rate is to be substituted for it.
12. An Act for Raising the Sum of £16,024,000, by Exchequer-bills, for the Service of the Year 1854. 12th May.
13. An Act to Amend the Acts Relating to the Militia of the United Kingdom. 12th May. By this Statute the militia may be embodied whenever a state of war exists.
14. An Act to Continue her Majesty's Commission for Building New Churches. 12th May.
15. An Act to Empower the Commissioners of the Admiralty to Construct a Tunnel between her Majesty's Dockyard at Devonport and her Majesty's Steam Factory Yard at Keyham; and to Acquire Certain Property for her Majesty's Service. 2nd June.
16. An Act to Amend the 13 and 14 Vic., c. 61; and the 15 and 16 Vic., c. 54. 2nd June. By this Statute the right of appeal is extended to cases in which the County Court has jurisdiction, pursuant to agreement of parties; and the parties may, if they choose, exclude in their agreement such right of appeal. By this Statute, also, insolvents' petitions for protection from process are to be within the provisions of the 15 and 16 Vic., c. 54, s. 8.
17. An Act to make further Provision for Defining the Boundaries of Counties, Baronies, Half-Baronies, Parishes, Townlands, and other Divisions and Denominations of Land in Ireland for Public Purposes. 2nd June.
18. An Act for the Encouragement of Seamen, and the more effectual Manning of her Majesty's Navy during the present War. 2nd June. This Statute contains the regulations relative to prizes taken from the Emperor of Russia and his subjects, the benefit of which seizures is given to the captors. This Statute called "The Prize Act, Russia, 1854," came into operation on the 1st of June of that year.
19. An Act for Facilitating the Payment of her Majesty's Navy, and the Payment and Distribution of Prize Bounty, Salvage, and other Monies to and amongst the Officers and Crews of her Majesty's Ships and Vessels of War, and for the Better Regulation of the Accounts relating thereto. 2nd June. This Statute, called "The Naval Pay and Prize Act, 1854," came into operation on the 1st of June of that year.
20. An Act to Repeal the 53 George III., c. 72, and the 7 and 8 Vic., c. 30, s. 21, and for making Provision for the Appointment and for Remuneration of a Stipendiary Justice for the Division of Manchester, in the County of Lancaster, and of Clerks to such Justice and the Justices for the Borough of Salford, and for other purposes. 2nd June.
21. An Act to Apply the sum of £8,000,000 out of the Consolidated Fund to the Service of the Year 1854. 16th June.
22. An Act to enable the Collector-General of Dublin to Levy Money to Repay a certain Outlay by the Corporation for Preserving and Improving the Port of Dublin, in and about; Repairing the Quay Walls of the River Liffey, and for its future Repairs; and for Repairing and Rebuilding Bridges over that River. 16th June.
23. An Act for Raising the Sum of £6,000,000 by Exchequer-bonds and Exchequer-bills. 16th June.
24. An Act for Granting to her Majesty an Increased Rate of Duty on Profits arising from Property, Professions, Trades, and Offices. 16th June. This Statute raises the Income Tax to one shilling and two pence in the pound: present abatement to be proportionably allowed. To commence from the 5th April, 1854, and to last during the war, until the 6th April next after the ratification of the definitive treaty of peace.
25. An Act to Amend the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, 1852. 16th June.
26. An Act to Assimilate the Law and Practice existing in cases of High Treason in Ireland, to the Law and Practice existing in Cases of High Treason in England—viz., as to a List of the Witnesses and a List of the Jury being given with the Copy of the Indictment to the accused party, ten days before the trial, in the presence of two or more witnesses. 3rd July.

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

27. An Act for Granting certain Additional Rates and Duties of Excise. 3rd July.
28. An Act to Alter and Amend certain Duties of Customs. 3rd July.
29. An Act to Alter the Duties of Customs on Sugar, Molasses, and Spirits. 10th July.
30. An Act for Granting certain Duties of Excise on Sugar made in the United Kingdom. 10th July.
31. An Act for the better Regulation of the Traffic on Railways and Canals. 10th July. By this Statute it is compulsory for every Railway Company to make arrangements for receiving and forwarding passengers and their luggage, and goods, animals and other things, without any unreasonable delay, and without any partiality. A Railway Company is to be liable for injury done in the carrying, to animals or goods, notwithstanding any notice to the contrary. The Company, however, will not be liable beyond a limited amount—viz., for a horse, £50; for any neat cattle, £15 per head; or for sheep or pigs, £2 per head, unless the value be declared, and an extra percentage paid.
32. An Act to Facilitate the Apportionment of the Rent when Parts of Lands in Lease are Taken for the purpose of the Church Building Acts. 10th July.
33. An Act to Place Public Statues within the Metropolitan Police district, under the Control of the Commissioners of Works and Public Buildings. 10th July.
34. An Act to Enable the Courts of Law in England, Ireland, and Scotland, to Issue Process to Compel the Attendance of Witness's out of their Jurisdiction, and to give Effect to the Service of such Process in any part of the United Kingdom. 10th July. This Statute gives a power to the Superior Courts of Law at Westminster or Dublin, and to the Court of Session or Exchequer in Scotland, or to a Judge of such Courts, to compel the attendance of a witness resident in one part of the United Kingdom at a trial in another part. No witness, however, is punishable for non-attendance, unless sufficient money has been tendered to pay his expenses.
35. An Act to Repeal Certain Provisions of the 5 and 6 Vic., c. 110, concerning the Holding of the Assizes for Warwickshire; which, for the future, are to be held at Warwick only, and not at Coventry. 10th July.
36. An Act for Preventing Frauds upon Creditors by Secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels. 10th July. By this Act every bill of sale of personal chattel's will be null and void unless it, or a true copy of it, be filed within twenty-one days of its making, with the Clerk of the Decoquets and Judgments in the Court of Queen's Bench.
37. An Act for Establishing the Validity of certain proceedings in her Majesty's Court of Vice-Admiralty in Mauritius. 10th July.
38. An Act for the Suppression of Gaming-houses. 24th July. By this Act a summary penalty, not exceeding £100, with six months' imprisonment and hard labour, in case of non-payment, will be incurred by any person obstructing, by means of bolts, bars, chains, or in any other way the entry of constables authorised to enter a house suspected to be a common gaming-house: such obstruction will, in itself, be evidence of the house being a common gaming-house. A person found in a house so entered by constables will be liable to a penalty not exceeding £50, or to imprisonment not exceeding one month, if he refuse to give his name and address, or give a false name and address. Persons keeping gaming-houses are liable to a penalty not exceeding £500, or to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, not exceeding twelve months. Persons apprehended in a house may be compelled to give evidence as to the gaming going on there.
39. An Act to Indemnify such Persons in the United Kingdom as have Omitted to Qualify themselves for Offices and Employments, and to Extend the Time limited for those Purposes respectively. 25th July.
40. An Act to Continue, till the 5th July, 1855, the 16 and 17 Vic., c. 91, for Extending, for a Limited Time, the Provision for Abatement of Income-tax, in respect of Insurance on Lives. 24th July.
41. An Act to Continue the Poor-law Board in England until the 23rd July, 1855, and thenceforth until the End of the then next Session of Parliament. 24th July.
42. An Act to Continue until the 31st July, 1855, and until the End of the then Session of Parliament, certain Acts for Regulating Turnpike Roads in Ireland. 24th July.
43. An Act to Continue until the 30th Sept., 1855, and to the End of the then next Session of Parliament, the 16 and 17 Vic., c. 77—an Act for Charging the Maintenance of certain Poor Persons in Unions in England and Wales upon the Common Fund. 24th July.
44. An Act for Regulating and Maintaining the Harbours of Holyhead, and for Vesting them in the Admiralty. 24th July.
45. An Act to Amend the 16 and 17 Vic., c. 112—the Dublin Carriage Act. 24th July.
46. An Act to Continue for Five Years, from the 24th July, 1854, certain Acts relating to Linen, Hemp, and other Manufactures in Ireland. 24th July.
47. An Act to Alter and Improve the Mode of Taking Evidence in the Ecclesiastical Courts of England and Wales. 24th July. This Act gives power to the Ecclesiastical Courts to summon and examine witnesses *viva voce*.
48. An Act to Authorise the Inclosure of Certain Lands, in pursuance of a Special Report of the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales. 24th July. By this Act the following lands are to be enclosed:—Quesenborough Common, Kent; Sutton, Yorkshire; Chalford, South Weston, Wheatfield, and Stoke Talmadge, Oxfordshire; Wanwood Pasture, Gambley, and Biglands, Cumberland; Stanmore, Berks; Buriton, Cove, Hants; Snettisham Warren, Norfolk; Woodmancote, Gloucestershire; Hatfield Forest, Essex; Haverhill, Suffolk; Hutton, Somersetshire; Drungewick, Sussex; Benhill Wood, Elstead, Surrey; Cusop, Herefordshire.
49. An Act for the Settlement of Claims Upon and Over the New Forest. 24th July.
50. An Act to Continue until the 1st January, 1858, and to the End of the then next ensuing Session of Parliament, the 11 and 12 Vic., c. 133—an Act for Amending the Laws relating to Savings Banks in Ireland; and to Authorise Friendly Societies to Invest the whole of their Funds in Savings Banks. 24th July.
51. An Act to Confirm Certain Provisional Orders made under the 14 and 15 Vic., c. 38—an Act to Facilitate Arrangements for the Relief of Turnpike Trusts; and to make certain Provisions respecting Exemptions from Tolls. 31st July.
52. An Act to Continue till the 1st October, 1860, and to the End of the then next Session of Parliament, the 4 and 5 Vic., c. 59—an Act for Authorising the Application of Highway Rates to Turnpike Roads. 31st July.
53. An Act to Confirm Provisional Orders of the General Board of Health for the districts of Plymouth, Haworth, Aberdare, Bishop Auckland, Willenhall, and Over Darwen. 31st July.
54. An Act to Guarantee the Liquidation of a Loan or Loans for the Service of the Colony of Jamaica. 31st July.
55. An Act for the Registration of Bills of Sale in Ireland. Similar to Cap. 36 for England (see *Supra*). 31st July.
56. An Act to make further Provisions in relation to certain Friendly Societies. 31st July.
57. An Act to Amend the Law relating to the Appointment of Returning Officers in certain cases. 31st July. By this Act, the Sheriff is to be the returning officer at the Parliamentary election in boroughs where the office of returning officer shall be vacant.
58. An Act to Continue in Great Britain all Turnpike Acts expiring before the End of the next Session of Parliament, to the 1st October, 1855, and to the End of the then next Session of Parliament; and to continue to the 1st Nov., 1855, certain Turnpike Acts mentioned in a Schedule to this Act; and to make Further Provisions concerning Turnpike Roads in England. 31st July.
59. An Act to Allow Verdicts on Trials by Jury in Civil Causes in Scotland to be Returned, although the Jury may not be unanimous. 31st July.
60. An Act to Amend the 12 and 13 Vic. c. 92—an Act for the more effectual Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. 31st July. By this Act the expenses of food and water for impounded animals may be recovered from the owners, and after seven days of impounding, the animals may be sold to pay such expenses. This Act also extends to all parts of the United Kingdom, the provision of the 2 and 3 Vic., c. 47, forbidding, under a penalty, the using of dogs for drawing carts, or other purposes of draught.
61. An Act to Authorise the Application of a Sum of Money out of the Forfeited and Unclaimed Army Prize Fund, in Enlarging and Improving the Royal Military Asylum at Chelsea. 31st July.
62. An Act to Extend the Benefits of Two Acts, the 8 and 9 Vic. c. 31, and the 10 and 11 Vic., c. 50, relating to the Constitution, Transmission, and Extinction of Heritable Securities in Scotland. 31st July.
63. An Act to Continue, till the 23rd of July, 1859, and to the End of the then next Session of Parliament, the Poor-law Commission for Ireland. 31st July.
64. An Act to Amend the '16 and 17 Vic., c. 101, an Act for Extending the Public Libraries Act, 1850, to Ireland and Scotland. 31st July.
65. An Act for further Continuing to the 1st August, 1855, and to the End of the then next Session of Parliament, certain Temporary Provisions concerning Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction in England. 31st July.
66. An Act to Continue till the 1st October, 1855, the Exemption of Inhabitants from Liability to be Rated as such in Respect of Stock in Trade or other Property to the Relief of the Poor. 31st July.
67. An Act to Facilitate the Purchase of Common, Commonable, and other Rights by the Principal Officers of her Majesty's Ordnance. 31st July.
68. An Act to Provide for the Application of Certain Stock Purchased with Monies which Arose from the Sale of Part of the Land Revenues of the Crown in Ireland. 31st July.
69. An Act to Indemnify Local Boards of Health as regards Rating for the Repair of Highways, under the Public Health Act, 1848. 31st July.
70. An Act to Enable the Trustees of Portland Chapel, Oxford Chapel, and Welbeck Chapel, in the parish of Saint Marylebone, to Augment the Salaries of the Ministers of the said Chapels. 31st July.
71. An Act to Amend the Law concerning the Making of Borough Rates in Boroughs not within the Municipal Corporation Acts. 31st July.
72. An Act to Provide for Payment of the Salaries of the Sheriff and Sheriff Clerk of Chancery in Scotland. 31st July.
73. An Act to Amend the Acts for the Regulation of Joint Stock Banks in Scotland. 31st July.
74. An Act to Render Reformatory and Industrial Schools in Scotland more Available for the Benefit of Vagrant Children. 7th August.
75. An Act to Remove Doubts concerning the Due Acknowledgment of Deeds by Married Women in Certain Cases. 7th August.
76. An Act for the Formation, Regulation, and Government of Convict Prisons in Ireland. 7th August.
77. An Act to Provide for the Mode of Passing Letters Patent and other Acts of the Crown Relating to India, and for Vesting certain Powers in the Governor-General of India in Council. 7th August.
78. An Act to Appoint Persons to Administer Oaths, and to Substitute Stamps in lieu of Fees, and for other purposes, in the High Court of Admiralty of England. 7th August.
79. An Act for further Regulating the Sale of Beer and other Liquors on the Lord's-day. 7th August. By this Act, licensed victuallers and all other persons are prohibited, in England and Wales, from opening their houses for the sale of beer, wine, spirits, or any fermented or distilled liquor, between half-past two and six o'clock p.m., or after ten o'clock p.m. on Sunday, Christmas-day, Good Friday, or Days of Public Fast or Thanksgiving; and before four a.m. of the next day, "except as Refreshments to a bona fide Traveller or Lodger therein." The penalty for each offence against this Act is a summary conviction in a sum not exceeding £5: every separate sale is to be deemed a separate offence.
80. An Act to Provide for the Better Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in Scotland. 7th August.
81. An Act to make further Provision for the good Government and Extension of the University of Oxford, and its Colleges, and of the College of St. Mary, Winchester. 7th August. This Act, after appointing Commissioners, materially alters the constitution of the University of Oxford; the most important Enactment being to the effect that, after Michaelmas Term, 1854, it will not be necessary to make a declaration, or take an oath, on matriculating; nor, with certain exceptions and restrictions, on taking [the] degree of B.A. in Arts, Law, Medicine, or Music.
82. An Act further to Improve the Administration of Justice in the Court of Chancery of the County Palatine of Lancaster. 7th August.
83. An Act to Amend the Laws relating to Stamp-duties. 9th August. This Statute alters the Stamp-duty on Bills and Promissory Notes, and on certain Leases; and makes other alterations. (See List of Stamps, in this Almanack.)
84. An Act to Extend the Provision of the Acts for the Augmentation of Benefices. 10th August.
85. An Act for better Securing the Collecting and Accounting for the Land-tax, Assessed Taxes, and Income-tax, by the Collectors thereof. 10th August.
86. An Act for the Better Care and Reformation of Youthful Offenders in Great Britain. 10th August. This statute empowers Courts, Judges, or Magistrates to send juvenile offenders under sixteen, on conviction, to a Reformatory School, to be there maintained by the Government, and by parents and step-parents.
87. An Act to make further Provision for the Burial of the Dead in England beyond the Limits of the Metropolis. 10th August.
88. An Act to Render Valid certain Marriages of British Subjects in Mexico. 10th August.

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89. An Act to Amend the Laws for the Better Prevention of the Sale of Spirits by Unlicensed Persons, and for the Suppression of Illicit Distillation, in Ireland. 10th August.
90. An Act to Repeal the Laws relating to Usury and to the Enrolment of Annuities. 10th August. By this Act, all existing laws against usury, except as relating to pawnbrokers, are abolished. The meaning of current or legal interest payable by rule of law is to remain as before.
91. An Act for the Valuation of Lands and Hereditaries in Scotland. 10th August.
92. An Act to Continue to the 31st August, 1855, the 11 and 12 Vic., c. 2—an Act for the Better Prevention of Crime and Outrage in certain Parts of Ireland. 10th August.
93. An Act for the Exchange of the Office, in Somerset House, of the Duchy of Cornwall for an Office to be erected in Pimlico on the Hereditary Possessions of the Crown. 10th August.
94. An Act to Alter the Mode of Providing for certain Expenses now charged upon certain Branches of the Public Revenues and upon the Consolidated Fund. 10th August.
95. An Act to make Better Provision for the Administration of the Laws relating to the Public Health. 10th August.
96. An Act for Allowing Gold Wares to be Manufactured at a Lower Standard than that now allowed by Law, and to Amend the Law relating to the Assaying of Gold and Silver Wares. 10th August.
97. An Act to Amend and Extend the Acts for the Inclosure, Exchange, and Improvement of Land. 10th August.
98. An Act to Regulate the Salaries of the Parochial Schoolmasters of Scotland. 10th August.
99. An Act to Provide for the Establishment of a National Gallery of Paintings, Sculpture, and the Fine Arts, for the Care of a Public Library, and the Erection of a Public Museum, in Dublin. 10th August.
100. An Act to Make further Provision for the more Speedy and Efficient Dispatch of Business in the High Court of Chancery. 10th August.
101. An Act to Continue and Amend the Acts now in force relating to Friendly Societies. 10th August.
102. An Act to Consolidate and Amend the Laws Relating to Bribery, Treating, and Undue Influence at Elections of Members of Parliament. 10th August. This Statute defines what is bribery, and declares it to be a misdemeanour, punishable by fine and imprisonment; the offender to be liable to forfeit £100 to any person suing for the same. The Act also defines treating, and makes the party treating liable to a forfeit of £50 to any person suing for the same; a party using undue influence (also defined) will be guilty of a misdemeanour, and also subject to forfeit £50 to any person suing for the same. No cockades, ribbons, or marks of distinction are to be used at elections, under a forfeit of £2 for each offence. Election auditors are to be appointed to settle proper expenses of candidates. Refreshments to voters are declared illegal, under a forfeit of 40s. for each offence.
103. An Act to Make Better Provision for the Paving, Lighting, Draining, Cleaning, Supplying with Water, and Regulation of Towns in Ireland. 11th August.
104. An Act to Amend and Consolidate the Acts relating to Merchant Shipping. 11th August.
105. An Act to Amend the Laws relating to the Militia in England and Wales. 11th August.
106. An Act for Amending the Laws relating to the Militia, and Raising a Volunteer Force in Scotland. 11th August.
107. An Act to Amend the Laws relating to the Militia, and for Raising a Volunteer Militia Force in Ireland. 11th August.
108. An Act to Suspend the Making of Lists and the Ballots for the Militia of the United Kingdom. 11th August.
109. An Act to Defray the Charge of the Pay, Clothing, and Contingent and other Expenses, of the Disembodied Militia in Great Britain and Ireland; to Grant Allowances in certain Cases to Subaltern Officers, Adjutants, Paymasters, Quartermasters, Surgeons, Assistant-Surgeons, Surgeons' Mates, and Sergeant-Majors of the Militia; and to Authorise the Employment of the Non-commissioned Officers. 11th August.
110. An Act to Provide for the Repayment of Monies advanced from the Exchequer to the County of Mayo for Public Purposes. 11th August.
111. An Act to Continue and Amend the Metropolitan Sewers Acts. 11th Aug.
112. An Act to Afford Greater Facilities for the Establishment of Institutions for the Promotion of Literature and Science, and the Fine Arts, and to Provide for their Better Regulation. 11th August.
113. An Act to Amend the Law relating to the Administration of the Estates of Deceased Persons. 11th August.
114. An Act to Extend the Rights enjoyed by the Graduates of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge in respect to the Practice of Physic to the Graduates of the University of London. 11th August.
115. An Act to Amend the Law relative to the Removal of Prisoners in Custody. 11th August.
116. An Act to Continue and Amend an Act to Facilitate the Management and Improvement of Episcopal and Capitular Estates in England. 11th August.
117. An Act to Facilitate the Sale and Transfer of Incumbered Estates in the West Indies. 11th August.
118. An Act to Empower the Legislature of Canada to Alter the Constitution of the Legislative Council for that Province, and for other Purposes. 11th Aug.
119. An Act for Regulating Appointments to Offices in the Court of Bankruptcy, and for Amending the Laws relating to Bankrupts. 11th August.
120. An Act to Repeal certain Acts and Parts of Acts relating to Merchant Shipping, and to Continue certain Provisions in the said Acts. 11th Aug.
121. An Act to Apply a Sum out of the Consolidated Fund and certain other Sums to the Service of 1854, and to Appropriately the Supplies granted in this Session of Parliament. 12th August.
122. An Act for the further Alteration and Amendment of the Laws and Duties of Customs. 12th August.
123. An Act to Redress any Dealing with Securities issued during the present War between Russia and England by the Russian Government a Misdemeanour. 12th August.
124. An Act to Settle the Contribution to be made by certain Baronies in Rosscommon and Galway and the County of the Town of Galway to the Midland Great Western Railway of Ireland Company. 12th August.
125. An Act for the further Amendment of the Process, Practice, and Mode of Pleading in, and Enlarging the Jurisdiction of, the Superior Courts of Common Law at Westminster, and of the Superior Courts of Common Law of the Counties Palatine of Lancaster and Durham. 12th Aug. This Statute, coming into operation on the 24th Oct., 1854, makes some very important alterations in the practice of actions at law; viz., as to a Judge, by consent, trying questions of fact without a jury; as to arbitrations; as to the mode of addressing the jury; as to affirmations instead of oaths; as to witnesses;

comparison of handwriting; stamping documents at trial; appeals; oral examinations; discovery of documents; written interrogatories; inspection by jury; attachments; mandamus to enforce Acts to be done, and injunctions, without applying to Courts of Equity; judgments, and executions. General rules for putting the Act in force, are to be made by the Judges.

There are 222 Local and Personal Acts, seventy-eight of which relate to railways. One local and personal act, c. 54, incorporates the Guild of Literature and Art, and enables it to hold land. Among the forty-one private acts, is an Act, c. 39, to relieve Thomas Alexander, Lord Lovat, from the effect of the attainder of Simon, Lord Lovat. There are also two Divorce Acts; viz. c. 40, to dissolve the marriage of Richard Redmond Caton, Esq., and Anna Maria, his wife; and c. 41, to dissolve the marriage of Henry Stocker, schoolmaster, and Sarah, his wife.

## SUMMARY OF PERSONS OF NOTE OR TITLE WHO HAVE DIED DURING THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS.

\* \* \* Detailed Biographical Notices of all these Persons are to be found in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

- 1853—OCT. 25. BRADSTREET, Sir Simon, Bart.; aged 82.
26. BETHAM, Sir William, Knt., Ulster King of Arms, Knight Attendant on the Order of St. Patrick, and Deputy Keeper of the Birmingham Tower Records.
27. DERRY and RAPHOE, the Hon. and Right Rev. Richard Ponsonby, D.D., Bishop of; aged 82.
28. CLONCURRY, Valentine, Second Baron; a distinguished and patriotic Irish nobleman; born 19th Aug., 1773.
29. LEVINGE, Elizabeth Anne, Lady; widow of the late, and mother of the present, Sir Richard Levinge, Bart.; daughter of the first Lord Rancliffe; aged 67.
31. KENMARA, Valentine, second Earl of; born 15th Jan., 1783.
- In Oct. MACKESON, Colonel, Commissioner of Peshawar; assassinated.
- NOV. 1. POWER, Harriet, Lady; relict of Sir John Power, Bart., of Kilfane, and niece of the famous orator, Henry Grattan; aged 76.
4. LANGFORD, Lady; wife of the present Lord Langford, and daughter of the late E. M. Conolly, Esq., of Castletown; aged 32; she was accidentally drowned while bathing.
5. LAWLESS, the Hon. Cecil John, M.P. for Clonmel, second son of the late Lord Conleary; born 1st Aug., 1820.
5. NESHAM, Admiral Christopher John Williams; aged 85.
11. CLAVERING, Sir Thomas John, eighth Bart., of Axwell, county of Durham; aged 81.
11. PANMURE, Montague, Lady; wife of the present Lord Panmure, and daughter of George, second Lord Abercromby.
15. PORTUGAL, Donna Maria II. da Gloria, Queen of, and of the Algarves; born 14th April, 1819; ascended the throne 2nd May, 1826.
17. ESTERHAZY DE GALANTHA, the Princess Sarah Frederica Caroline; daughter of the present Earl of Jersey, and Consort of Prince Nicholas Paul Esterhazy de Galantha; born 12th Aug., 1822.
17. BEAUFORT, John Henry Somerset, seventh Duke of; born 5th Feb., 1792.
22. DARTMOUTH, William Legge, fourth Earl of; born 29th Nov., 1784.
24. KAY, Ellis Cuncliffe Lister, Esq.; aged 82.
26. SANFORD, Lady Caroline Anne; second daughter of Charles, third Earl of Harrington, and wife of E. Ayshford Sanford, Esq., of Nynhead, Somersetshire.
28. GROVER, the Rev. John Septimus, late Vice-Provost of Eton College; aged 86.
28. DE BUTTS, Gen. Sir Augustus, K.C.H., Colonel Commandant of the Royal Engineers; born in 1770.
28. BRADFORD, Gen. Sir Thomas, G.C.B.; a distinguished military commander.
29. EWING, James, Esq., of Strathlinen; aged 78.
30. WITHAM, Sir Charles, Knight; aged 62.
- In Nov. ARUNDELL of WARDOUR, Mary, Lady of; third daughter of Robert Jones, Esq., of Ades, Sussex, and widow of the ninth Lord Arundell, of Wardour; aged 76.
- In Nov. BRISTOW WILSON, the Rev. Dr. Harry; Rector of St. Mary and St. Thomas-the-Apostle, London; aged 78.
- In Nov. ESCOTT, Bickham, Esq., of Harbrow-house, Somersetshire; a well-known M.P. and politician; born in 1800.
- In Nov.—GOLDSMID, Colonel John L.; formerly of the British service, and late of Watertown, in America.
- In Nov.—METCALFE, Sir Thomas Theophilus, Bart.; Agent to the Governor-General of India, at Delhi; born 2nd Jan., 1795.
- DEC. 3. PRINGLE John, Esq., Sheriff Substitute of Banffshire; born in 1785.
15. MAR and KELLIE, Philadelphia, Countess of; daughter of Sir C. G. Menzies, Bart., and wife of John, fifteenth Earl of Mar.
16. EGLINTON and WINTON, Theresa, Countess of; daughter of C. Newcomen, Esq.; married, first, to R. H. Cockerell, Esq., Commander R.N., and, secondly, to the present Earl of Eglington.
17. WELLESLEY, Marianne, Marchioness; daughter of R. Caton, Esq., of Maryland; married, first, to R. Paterson, Esq., and, secondly, to the late Marquis Wellesley.
17. HOWDEN, Theodosia Sarah Frances, Dowager Baroness; daughter of John, first Earl of Clanwilliam, and widow of Gen. John F. Cradock, G.C.B., first Baron Howden; aged 79.
19. LOWTHROP, Sir William, of Alga House, Scarborough; born in 1794.
20. ELLIOT, Sir H. Miers, K.C.B.; Foreign Secretary to the East Indian Government.
25. GILLKREST, Dr. James; Inspector-General of Army Hospitals.
25. MILL, the Rev. Dr. William Hodge; Regius Professor of Hebrew at Cambridge, and Canon of Ely.
30. JENKINS, Sir Richard, G.C.B., B.C.L., F.R.A.S.; aged 68.
- In Dec.—FETHERSTONHAUGH, Thomas James, Esq., of Bracklyn Castle, county Westmeath; aged 62.
- 1854.—JAN. 4. SIMEON, Sir R. Godin, Bart.; born 21st May, 1784.
5. PLUNKET, William Conyngham, Baron; ex-Lord Chancellor of Ireland; born in 1765.
5. PAWSON, William, of Shawden, Northumberland, Esq., R.N.; born 1780.
6. MURTON, Colonel.

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7. HOPE-WALLACE, the Hon. James, of Featherstone Castle, county of Northumberland; born 7th Jan., 1807.  
 8. BERESFORD, William Carr, Viscount, Duke of Elvas; a distinguished British General.  
 9. TAYLOR, Major-General, C.B., of Oggwell, Devon; Lieutenant-Governor of Sandhurst; Colonel of 17th Lancers; aged 70.  
 10. PORTSMOUTH, Newton, Earl of; born 26th June, 1772.  
 11. RICKFORD, W., Esq., M.P. for Aylesbury; aged 85.  
 12. BOYSE, Thomas, Esq., of Bannow, county Wexford; aged 72.  
 13. CLIVE, the Hon. R. H., M.P. for South Shropshire; second son of Edward, first Earl of Powis; born 15th Jan., 1789.  
 14. MORGAN, Charles Rodney, M.P., heir of the Morgans of Tredegar; aged 25.  
 15. SOTHEBY, Rear-Admiral.  
 16. TINDAL, Charles, Esq.  
 17. LOPEZ, Sir Ralph, Bart.; born in 1788.  
 18. BAILLIE, Sir William, Bart., of Polkemmet.  
 19. STRACHAN, Sir John, Bart.  
 20. BLANQUI, Aimé Jerome Adolphe, of the French Academy.  
 FEB 1 BEAUCLERK, Aubrey William, Esq., of Ardglass Castle, county Down, and St. Leonards Forest, Sussex.  
 1. PELLICO, Silvio, author of "Mi Prigionieri."  
 2. GOODLAKE, Thomas, Esq., of Letcombe Regis, Bucks; aged 78.  
 3. MOUNTAIN, Colonel Armine, C.B., Adjutant-General in India; born 4th Feb., 1797.  
 4. MARTIN, John, the celebrated painter; born at Haydon Bridge, Northumberland, in 1789.  
 5. GERARD, Sir John, Bart., of Bryn; born 8th Dec., 1804.  
 6. DRAKE, Christopher, Esq., of Roriston, co. Meath; aged 63.  
 7. LOWTHER, Gorze, Esq., of Kilmure, Meath.  
 8. PEYTTON, Sir Henry, second Bart., of Doddington, county Cambridge; born 1st July, 1779.  
 9. LAMMENNAIS, M. de; the well-known theological, liberal, and infidel politician; aged 70.  
 In Feb. GURNEY, Richard Hanbury, Esq., of Norwich; an opulent banker.  
 In Feb. HOME, Sir James Everard, Bart., C.B., of Well Manor Farm, Hants; aged 55.  
 MARCH 2. REHAUSEN, Le Chevalier John G. Baron de; Swedish Envoy to the Court of St. James; born in 1802.  
 3. ARMSTRONG, Lieut.-Gen. Sir Richard, K.C.B.; born in 1782.  
 4. STAVELY, Lieut.-Gen. William, C.B., Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army.  
 5. TENNANT, Col. Sir James, K.C.B., Brigadier Commanding at Lahore; aged 64.  
 6. SALISBURY, Edward Denison, Bishop of, aged 53.  
 7. JENKYN, the Rev. Dr., Master of Balliol College, Oxford, Dean of Bath and Wells; aged 70.  
 8. LONDONDERRY, Charles William Stewart Vane, Marquis of, K.G.; a distinguished General of the Peninsular War; born 18th May, 1778.  
 9. TALFOURD, the Hon. Sir Thomas Noon; one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas; author of "Ion;" born 26th Jan., 1795; died suddenly in Court at Stafford.  
 10. JOLIFFE, John Twyford, Esq., of Amerdown Park, Somersetshire.  
 11. THOMPSON, Alderman William, M.P., of Underley Hall, Westmoreland; aged 61.  
 12. DONERAILE, Hayes St. Leger, third Viscount; born 9th May, 1786.  
 13. LICHFIELD, Thomas William Anson, Earl of; born 20th Oct. 1795.  
 14. JEPHSON, Charlotte Rocheford, Lady; daughter of Gen. Sir John Smith, R.A., and widow of Sir Mountney Jephson, Bart.  
 15. BRANDER, Lieut.-Col. of Pitgavenny and Kinnediar; aged 62; late of the 42nd Highlanders.  
 16. CLANRICARDE, Eliza, Countess Dowager of; daughter of Sir Thomas Burke, Bart.; widow of John, 13th Earl of Clanricarde; aged nearly 90.  
 17. PARMA, Charles III., Duke of; assassinated; born 14th Jan., 1823.  
 18. PORTLAND, William Henry Cavendish Scott Bennington, 4th Duke of; aged 86.  
 19. DYER, Sir Thomas Swynerton, Bart., Capt. R.N.  
 In March. CONROY, Sir John, Bart.; born 21st Oct., 1786.  
 In March. WYLIE, Sir James, Physician at the Court of St. Petersburg.  
 APRIL 3. MOSTYN, Edward Price, Lord; born 17th Sept., 1768.  
 4. WENYSS, Rear-Admiral James, of Wemyss Castle, and Torrie House, born in 1789.  
 5. GORT, Maria, Viscountess; eldest daughter of the Lord Chief Baron Standish, first Viscount Guillamore, and wife of John Prendergast, present and third Viscount Gort.  
 6. THORNTON, Lieut.-General Sir Charles Wade, G.C.H.  
 7. HOLFORD, James, Esq., of Holford-house, Regent's-park.  
 8. ACTON, Lieut.-Colonel William, M.P. for county Wicklow; aged 65.  
 9. POWELL, Colonel William Edward, of Nanteos, M.P.; born 16th Feb., 1788.  
 10. BYNG, Mrs. Harriet, of Wrotham Park; widow of George Byng, Esq., M.P., and daughter and co-heir of Sir William Montgomerie, Bart.  
 11. TURTON, Sir Thomas Edward Michell, Bart.; born 8th Nov., 1790.  
 12. HOBOHOUSE, the Right Hon. Henry, born in 1776; Home Secretary from 1817 to 1827.  
 13. MACKELLAR, Admiral John.  
 14. GILBERT, John Davies, Esq., of Treliwick, Cornwall.  
 15. HOOPER, John Kinnersley, Esq.; an Alderman of the City of London; born in 1790.  
 16. GRAZEBROOK, Michael, Esq., of Audnam, Stafford.  
 17. HALSEY, Thomas Plumer, Esq., M.P.; drowned, with his wife and child, in the "Ercolano"; born 26th Jan., 1815.  
 18. COCKBURN, Henry Thomas Cockburn, Lord; a distinguished Scotch Advocate and Judge; born in 1778.  
 19. QUEENSBERRY, Caroline, Marchioness of; daughter of Henry, third Duke of Buccleuch, and widow of Charles, Marquis of Queensberry; aged 80.  
 20. ANGLESEY, Henry William Paget, first Marquis, K.G., of; one of the most gallant commanders of the late war.  
 21. THACKERAY, the Rev. Elias, Rector of Louth; aged 83.  
 22. MONGOMERY, James; the celebrated poet.  
 23. NEWTON, Dr.; a distinguished Wesleyan minister.  
 In April. GLIN, John Fraunces Fitzgerald, Knight of; born 28th June, 1791.  
 In April. HALL, General Gage John, Colonel of the 70th Regiment; aged 78.  
 MAY 1. BARCLAY-ALLARDICE, Robert, Esq., of Urie and Allardice, N.B.; born 25th August, 1779.  
 24. COLBORNE, Nicholas William, Lord; aged 75.  
 25. HANCOCK, Lieut.-Col.; formerly of the 13th Regiment; aged 73.  
 26. PORTSMOUTH, Catharine, Countess Dowager of; second daughter of Hugh, first Viscount Fortescue, and widow of the fourth Earl of Portsmouth.  
 27. INGLBY, Sir William Amcotts, Bart., of Kettlethorpe Hall, M.P.; born 20th June, 1783.  
 28. BATH and WELLS, the Hon. and Right Rev. Richard Bagot, D.D., Bishop of; born the 22nd Nov., 1782.  
 29. WOLSELEY, Sir Charles, eighth Bart., of Wolseley, Staffordshire; born in 1813.  
 30. DACRE, Barbara, Dowager Lady; third daughter of Admiral Sir Chaloner Ogle, Bart.; widow, first, of V. H. Wilmot, Esq., and, secondly, of Thomas, twentieth Lord Dacre; aged 81.  
 31. CUNYNGHAM, Sir David, Bart., of Milnraig; born 14th Aug., 1769.  
 32. MACDONELL, the Hon. Mrs.; wife of Lieut.-Colonel Macdonell, C.B.; and third daughter of James Everard, ninth Lord Arundell of Wardour.  
 33. CAMPBELL, Sir George, Bart., of Edenwood, Fifeshire; brother of the Chief Justice Lord Campbell; aged 76.  
 34. RIDDELL, Major Thomas, H.E.I.C.S.  
 35. BLACKWOOD, Sir Henry, Bart., Lieut. of H.M.S. "Leander"; aged 26.  
 36. PROSSER, Mr. Richard, C.E.  
 37. HERON, Sir Robert, Bart.; born 27th Nov., 1765.  
 38. MAITLAND, General Sir Peregrine, G.C.B.; aged 76.  
 In May. GLYNNE, the Hon. Lady Mary; second daughter of the second Lord Braybrooke, and widow of Sir Stephen Richard Glynne; aged 67.  
 In May. PARKER, Vice-Admiral Hyde, C.B., First Senior Naval Lord of the Admiralty.  
 JUNE 7. OTWAY, Lieut.-General Sir Loftus, C.B., Colonel of the 80th Regiment; born in 1775.  
 39. CASLE STUART, Robert, Earl of; born 19th Aug., 1784.  
 40. GRENVILLE, the Hon. and Right Rev. George Neville Grenville, Dean of Windsor, Registrar of the Order of the Garter; born 17th Aug., 1789.  
 41. MEYNELL, Godfrey, Esq., of Meynell Langley, county of Derby; aged 74.  
 42. FITZCLARENCE, Lord Augustus, Rector of Maple Durham, Chaplain to the Queen; born in 1805.  
 43. TUFNELL, the Right Hon. Henry; born in 1807.  
 44. SONTAG, Henrietta, Countess de Rossi, the celebrated vocalist; died of cholera, at Mexico.  
 45. WEST, Lieut.-Col. Charles Augustus.  
 46. TEYNHAM, Sarah, Baroness; youngest daughter of the late Sir Anthony Brabazon, Bart., and widow of Henry, fourteenth Baron Teynham.  
 JULY 4. CARLYON, Major-General Edward; aged 70.  
 47. ALEXANDER, Lady Elizabeth; daughter of James, first Earl of Caledon; aged 78.  
 48. THORNE, Lieut.-Col. Peregrine Francis; formerly Commandant at Plymouth.  
 49. BLUNDELL, William, Esq., of Crosby Hall, Lancashire; aged 68.  
 50. BATTHYANY, Count Casimir; an active partisan in the late Hungarian war; born June 4th, 1807.  
 51. BIDDULPH, Sir Theophilus, Bart.; born 28th March, 1785.  
 52. MURRAY, James, Esq., of Philiphaugh.  
 53. BAGSHAWE, William Leonard Gill, Esq., of Wormhill Hall and The Oaks; killed in an affray with poachers; aged 25.  
 54. MEYNELL, Thomas, Esq., of Kilvington Hall, and The Fryerage, county York; aged 79.  
 55. LANGFORD, Clotworthy Wellington William Robert Rowley, third Baron; born 24th July, 1825.  
 56. KILMORE, ELPHIN, and ARDAGH, the Right Rev. John Leslie, D.D., Bishop of; aged 81.  
 57. KING, Gen. Sir Henry, C.B., K.C.H., Colonel of the 3rd Buffs; aged 76.  
 58. BEDINGFIELD, the Hon. Georgina, Lady; only daughter of Sir William Jerningham, Bart., and widow of Sir Richard Bedingfield, Bart.  
 In July. MEDWYN, John Hay Forbes, Lord; an eminent Scotch lawyer and Judge; born in 1776.  
 In July. MURRAY, the Very Rev. Richard, D.D., Dean of Ardagh, author of "Ireland and her Church."  
 AUGUST 1. MAULE, the Hon. Lieut.-Col. Lauderdale M.P., Assistant-Adjutant-General in the E.A.; died of cholera, at Constantinople; second son of the late Lord Pamphur; born 25th March, 1807.  
 59. DARBY, Thomas, Esq.; aged 74.  
 60. MORLEY, Francis, Esq., of Marrick Park, Yorkshire; aged 44.  
 61. SAXONY, Frederick Augustus, King (f); accidentally killed by a kick from a horse, at Innspruck; born 18th May, 1797.  
 62. MELLONI, Chevalier Mucedonio; a celebrated natural philosopher; aged 53.  
 63. BEAUFORT, Charlotte Sophia, Duchess Dowager of; second daughter of the first Marquis of Stafford, and widow of Henry Charles, sixth Duke of Beaufort, K.G.; aged 82.  
 64. JOCELYN, Robert, Viscount, M.P., Colonel of the Essex Rifles, eldest son of the present Earl of Roden; born 20th Feb. 1816.  
 65. DYNEVOR, Frances, Dowager Baroness; third daughter of the first Viscount Syden, and widow of George Talbot, third Baron Dynevior; aged 82.  
 66. McDONNELL, Randall, Esq., of Glenriff, Antrim; aged 81.  
 67. BEAUMONT, Miles Thomas Baron; born 4th June, 1805.  
 68. ROWLEY, Captain Richard Freeman, R.N.  
 69. THICKNESSE, Ralph Anthony, Esq., M.P., of Beech-hill, county Lancaster; aged 54.  
 70. CAITHNESS, Frances Harriet, Countess of; youngest daughter and co-heir of the late Very Rev. William Leigh, of Rushall Hall, co. Stafford, and wife of Alexander, Lord Berriedale.  
 71. BUSH, Major-General William, K.H.  
 72. SOMERSET, Lady William; daughter of the late Henry Brady, Esq., of Raheens Manor, co. Clare; widow, first, of Cornelius O'Callaghan, Esq., of Ballynahinch, and secondly, of the Rev. Lord William G. H. Somerset, son of the fifth Duke of Beaufort.  
 In August. AGLIONBY, Henry Aglionby, Esq., M.P. for Cockermouth.  
 In Aug. BERNAL, Ralph, Esq., M.P., Chairman of Committees of the House of Commons.  
 In Aug. CANINO, Zenaida Charlotte Julia Bonaparte, *Princess of*, daughter of King Joseph Bonaparte, and Consort of Charles Bonaparte, Prince of Canino; born 8th July, 1802.  
 In Aug. LEVINGE, Brevet-Major, R.A., second son of the late Sir Richard Levinge, Bart.; aged 41.  
 In Aug. TAYLOR, Charlotte Albinia, Lady; daughter of Colonel Edward Disbrowe, of Walton Hall, co. of Derby, and widow of Lieut.-General Sir Herbert Taylor, G.C.B., G.C.H.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

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# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

## ANNUAL CUSTOMS, SIGHTS AND SHOWS, IN LONDON.\*

- Jan. 1—The British Museum closes.  
 Jan. 6—*Twelfth-Day*, formerly kept as a great festivity at Court, in city, and in the country. On Twelfth-Day, 1731, George II. and the Prince of Wales made, at the Chapel Royal, St. James's, "offerings at the altar of gold, frankincense, and myrrh," according to custom; and on this day, an extra service, with music, is still performed here. The keeping of Twelfth-Night with "cakes and characters" is now but rare. Baddeley, the comedian (originally cook to Foote), left by will money to provide cake and wine for the performers, in the Green-room, at Drury-lane Theatre, every Twelfth-Night; but the bequest is not regularly observed.
- Plough-Monday* (the Monday next Twelfth-Day), the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen proceed in state to Guildhall, to receive presentments of ward-mote inquests, &c.
- Jan. 8—British Museum re-opens.
- Jan. 11—*Hilary Term commences*; when the Judges, having breakfasted with the Lord Chancellor, at about one o'clock, proceed in their carriages with his Lordship to Westminster Hall, and there walk in procession to their respective Courts.
- Jan. 30—*Martyrdom of King Charles I*—The House of Lords attend Divine service in Westminster Abbey; the House of Commons, in St. Margaret's Church, Westminster.
- The *Opening of Parliament* usually takes place about this time, by the Sovereign, in state. The out-door line of procession is from Buckingham Palace, through St. James's-park and the Horse Guards, to the House of Lords. Admission to witness the ceremony by tickets. By a similar privilege, the departure of the Sovereign may be witnessed at the Palace. The vaults beneath the Houses of Parliament are searched on the day previous—customary since the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot.
- Shrove Tuesday*.—The "Pancake" custom little observed. At Westminster a curious custom is retained: the upper and lower schools are divided by a bar, over which, on Shrove Tuesday, at eleven o'clock, the college-cook, attended by a verger, having made his obeisance to the Masters, proceeds to toss a pancake into the upper school—once a warning to proceed to dinner in the hall.
- Ash Wednesday*.—Theatres closed.
- Picture Exhibitions*.—Between the middle of February and the first Monday in May, the Exhibitions open for the season in the following order:—1. British Institution, Pall-mall. 2. National Institution, Regent-street. 3. Society of British Artists, Suffolk-street. 4. New Society of Painters in Water-colours, Pall-mall. 5. Society of Painters in Water-colours, Pall-mall East. 6. Royal Academy, Trafalgar square.
- Feb. 14.—*Hunterian Oration* delivered at the College of Surgeons, Lincoln's Inn Fields.
- Royal Academy Lectures* commence about this time: admission free, by Academicians and Associates' tickets.
- March 1—*St. David's Day*.—Annual Festival of the Society of Ancient Britons: they clothe and educate 200 boys and girls, who, on March 1, walk in procession from their school-house in Gray's Inn-lane to St. George's Church, Hanover-square, each of the children wearing an artificial leek, and the officers of the charity a triple plume and a leek. In the evening the Society dine together, when the music is characteristically Welsh. On this day Welshmen (but chiefly members of clubs) wear leeks.
- Christ's Hospital*.—Public Suppers take place on the eight successive Sundays terminating with Easter-day; when the public are admitted, by tickets signed by a Governor, to view the 800 boys sup in the Great Hall.
- Society of Arts' Annual Exhibition*, John-street, Adelphi, opens about this date.
- March 17—*St. Patrick's Day*.—Annual Festival of the Benevolent Society of St. Patrick. The Irish wear the Shamrock of their patron saint.
- March 25—*Fair in the Thames Tunnel* held to-day, the anniversary of the Opening of the Tunnel in 1843.
- Levees*, Her Majesty's, at St. James's Palace, usually commence in this month.
- April 1—*York Column Staircase* re-opens. Dulwich Gallery re-opens.
- Palm Sunday* is little observed in London: though the weavers of Spitalfields leaving their murky workshops, ramble into the fields and lowlands of Essex on this day, to gather "palm" and inhale a purer atmosphere.
- Passion Week*.—All theatres licensed by the Lord Chamberlain are closed. On Monday and Tuesday her Majesty's bounties are distributed to the aged and meritorious poor at the Almony, in Whitehall; the Gate Alms are unlimited. *Maundy Thursday*, the day preceding Good Friday, is the day on which the Royal bounty is distributed by the Queen's Almoners, in the Chapel at Whitehall, to poor men and women, two for every year her Majesty has attained. Admission to the Chapel only by tickets, obtainable at the Almony Office. The alms-money, consisting of sovereigns and silver pieces of 4d., 3d., 2d., and 1d. value, or "Maundy Money," in purses, and red and white leather bags, is carried in alms-dishes by Yeomen of the Guard, preceded by the Almoners, and at the conclusion of the first lesson is given to the pensioners; the purses to the women; and the leather bags, with stockings, shoes, and broad-cloth, to the men.
- Good Friday*.—"Hot Cross Buns" are rarely cried in the streets, as formerly.
- Easter Eve*.—Midnight Mass at the large Catholic Chapels—a magnificent scene.
- Easter Monday and Tuesday*.—The Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen, proceed in state to hear the Spital Sermons preached at Christ Church, Newgate-street. On Monday the Lord Mayor gives a banquet at the Mansion-house; on Tuesday the boys of Christ's Hospital walk in procession to the Mansion-house, where each is regaled with two buns and a glass of wine; and the Lord Mayor presents to each of the Grecians one guinea, a half-a-crown to each monitor, and one shilling to each remaining boy. Greenwich fair is held on these days; and nearly every Theatre and Exhibition in the metropolis are open.
- First Sunday of Easter Term*.—The Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and Judges, go in state to hear Divine service at St. Paul's Cathedral.
- Whitebait Season* at Greenwich and Blackwall from April to August.
- Drawingrooms*.—Her Majesty's, commences in April. At the first, forty of the "Mathematical Boys" of Christ's Hospital are conveyed in coaches to St. James's Palace, and there presented to the Queen, who inspects their charts; and the boys receive eight guineas. Tickets to see the Drawingroom company arrive are obtainable.
- May 1—*May Day*.—The bedizened Sweeps' Jack-in-the Green is now rarely seen; and the Mayings are little more than a few omnibus ribbons and flowers. On this day, and on December 27th, the young women educated in Raines's Charity Schools, Wapping, draw lots for a marriage portion of £100, the bridegroom being of St. John's, Wapping, or St. Paul's, Shadwell.
- May 1—British Museum closes.
- May Meetings*, or Anniversaries of Religious and Benevolent Societies, held this month, mostly in Exeter-hall, Strand. (See the printed lists.)
- The Exhibition of the Royal Academy* opens on the first Monday in May.
- May 2—Annual Distribution of Prizes, &c., at St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
- May 8—British Museum re-opens.
- Royal Botanic Society's Three Exhibitions*, Inner Circle, Regent's-park, in May, June, and July.
- St Paul's School Apposition* in the fourth week after Easter.
- Anniversary Festival of the Sons of the Clergy*.—Service and Sermon in St. Paul's Cathedral, towards the middle of May.
- Horticultural Society's Three Exhibitions* of Flowers and Fruits, at their Gardens, at Chiswick, in May, June, and July. Admission, by tickets only, at 5s. each, to be had at 21, Regent-street, by personal or written order of Fellows of the Society, the day before the Exhibition; tickets on the day, 7s. 6d. each.
- Holy Thursday*.—Parochial bounds beaten; and Inns of Court closed, to prevent the claim of right of way.
- Whit-Monday*.—Greenwich Fair and Steam-boat and Railway Excursions.
- Trinity Monday*.—The Trinity Company assemble at their house on Tower-hill, and embark at noon, in official costume, in their splendid barges at Tower-stairs, for the Trinity Ground, at Deptford, to inspect the alm-houses, and attend Divine Service at St. Nicholas Church; and then return to the Trinity-house, where a splendid banquet is served in the evening.
- May 21—*Her Majesty's Birth-day*.—Drawing-room, official State dinners, and illumination of club-house, Royal tradesmen's houses, &c. Park and Tower Guns fired at one p.m.—(The day of keeping varies.) *Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends*, Devonshire-house, Houndsditch.
- May 29—*Restoration of Charles II*.—The Chaplain of the House of Commons preaches in St. Margaret's Chu-ch, Westminster, before "the House," usually represented by the Speaker, the Sergeant-at-Arms, the clerks, and other officers, and some half-dozen Members. This is a day of Court dinners and Loving Cups at several City Companies' halls.
- June 18—*Waterloo Day*.—Grand inspection of troops in one of the parks, the Foot Guards wearing laurel, in memory of the great victory; Park and Tower guns fired at one p.m. The late Duke of Wellington on this day gave a banquet at Apsley House, to the surviving heroes.
- June—*Anniversary of the Charity Schools* held early in the month, beneath the vast dome of St. Paul's Cathedral: services, sermon, and sacred music; 8000 children generally present.
- June 20—*Accession of her Majesty*.—Park and Tower guns fired one p.m.
- June 24—*Electation of Sheriffs* in Guildhall.
- Harrow School*.—Public Speech Days first Monday in June and July.
- June 25—*The Harveian Oration* delivered at the College of Physicians, Pall-mall East.
- June 28—*Coronation of her Majesty*.—Park and Tower guns fired 1 p.m.
- City of London School Prize-Distribution* towards the close of July.
- Swan-upping Excursions*, in July and August, on the Thames, by the Lord Mayor and Dyers' and Vintners' Companies, in their state barges.
- Aug. 1—*Dagget's Coat and Badge* (silver), the oldest waver rowed for on the Thames, from the "Swan" at London-bridge to the "Swan" at Chelsea.
- Sept. 1—British Museum closes.
- Sept. 2—*Anniversary of the Great Fire of London*, 1666: Holiday at the Bank, Customs and Excise.
- Sept. 3—*Bartholomew Fair* formerly commenced, but now extinct.
- Sept. 8—British Museum re-opens.
- Sept. 17—*National Gallery* closes.
- Sept. 21—*St. Matthew's Day*.—The Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen visit Christ's Hospital in state; and in the Great Hall, orations in Greek and Latin are delivered by the senior boys who are qualified for college. To each Grecian the Lord Mayor gives one Guinea, the Sheriffs half a guinea each. Visitors admitted by Governors' tickets.
- Sept. 24—The York column staircase closes.
- Sept. 28—The Sheriffs publicly sworn into office at Guildhall.
- Sept. 29—*Michaelmas Day*.—The Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and City Officers go in state from the Mansion-house to Guildhall, whence they walk to St. Lawrence's Church, King-street, to hear service; they then return to Guildhall, where a Common Hall is held for electing the Lord Mayor for the ensuing year.
- Sept. 30—*Procession of the New Sheriffs* from Guildhall to Blackfriars, and thence by water to Westminster, where the Sheriffs are presented in the Court of Exchequer; the senior Alderman below the chair, by chopping two bundles of sticks, does suit and service for a manor in Shropshire, and counts six horse-shoes and sixty-one hobnails for premises once in St. Clement Danes.
- Oct. 1—*Winter Medical Session* commences at the various Hospitals.
- Oct. 23—*National Gallery* re-opens.
- Nov. 1—Dulwich Gallery closes.
- Nov. 2—*First Day of Michaelmas Term*.—Opening of the Law Courts at Westminster, as on January 11. The Gresham Lectures commence at the College, in Basin-hall-street.
- Nov. 8—*Inauguration of the Lord Mayor Elect*, when the ex-Lord Mayor resigns his insignia of office at a Court of Hustings in Guildhall.
- Nov. 9—*Lord Mayor's Day*.—State Procession by land and water from Guildhall to Westminster and back. Presentation of the Lord Mayor in the Exchequer Court. Grand Banquet at Guildhall, and dinners at various City Companies' Halls. Birthday of the Prince of Wales.
- Nov. 26—*Great Storm of 1703*.—Annual Sermon in commemoration of, preached on the nearest Sunday in Little Wild-street Chapel.
- Nov. 30—*St. Andrew's Day*.—Holiday at the Bank, Customs, and Excise.
- Dec. 10—*Royal Academy* Annual Distribution of Prizes.
- Smithfield Club Cattle Show*, at the Bazaar, King-street, Portman-square, held the second week of December.
- Dec. 12—*Celebration of the Founders' Day at the Charter-House*.—Sermon, Latin Oration in the Great Hall, and dinner of old Carthusians.
- Westminster Play*.—Latin Plays (of Terence) represented by the Scholars at St. Peter's College, clad in Greek costume, upon the second Thursday in December, and the Monday before and after that day; the scenery designed by Garrick. Admission by tickets only.
- Dec. 21—*St. Thomas's Day*.—Election of Common Councilmen in the City of London.
- Dec. 22—*The Great Meal and Poultry Markets* are now worth a special visit.
- Dec. 24—Christmas cheer distributed in her Majesty's prisons, and in the City prisons, union workhouses, &c.—Bow bells commence ringing at nine, p.m.—Grand Midnight Mass at the Roman Catholic Chapel, Finsbury; and musical service in other chapels.
- Dec. 25—Distribution of food to the destitute poor of the metropolis.
- Dec. 26—Nearly every Theatre and Public Exhibition open.
- Dec. 31—*Watching Out the Old Year* at the principal Wesleyan Chapels.

\* From "Curiosities of London: exhibiting the most Rare and Remarkable Objects of Interest in the Metropolis." By John Timbs, F.S.A. Pp. 789. D. Bogue, 86, Fleet-street.

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

## STAMP AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DUTIES.

### RECEIPTS.

For £2 and upwards (after 10th October, 1853) .. .. .. One penny.

N.B. Persons receiving the money are compelled to pay the duty.

(Receipts may be stamped within 14 days of date on payment of £5, or within one month on payment of £10 penalty: after that time they cannot be stamped.)

Adhesive Stamps of One Penny may be used for receipts, or drafts, or orders on demand, without regard to their special appropriation; i.e. one will do for the other, and vice versa.

Receipts for money paid to Crown exempt from Stamp duty. No exemption for letters acknowledging receipt of Bills or Money Securities.

### AGREEMENTS (NOT UNDER SEAL).

Of the value of £20 or upwards .. .. .. .. .. 2s. 6d.  
If the agreement contain 2160 words, or upwards, then for every quantity of 1080 words over the first 1080, a further progressive duty of .. 2s. 6d.

*Exemptions.*—Letters containing any agreement in respect of merchandise, by post, between merchants or traders in Great Britain or Ireland, residing and actually being, at the time, at the distance of 50 miles from each other; agreements relating to sale of goods; to hire of labourers, servants, and seamen; and to rack-rent leases under £5 per annum.

Agreements may be stamped within 14 days after date without penalty, and at any time after 14 days on payment of £10 penalty.

### LEASES AND CONVEYANCES.

Lease or tace, of any lands, tenements, hereditaments, or heritable subjects, at a yearly rent, for less than thirty-five years, or less than a year, without any sum of money by way of fine, premium, or grassum paid for the same:—

|                                    | s. d. |                                     | s. d.    |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Yearly rent not exceeding £5       | 0 6   | Exceed. £25, and not exc. £50       | 5 0      |
| Exceeding £5, and not exceeding 10 | 1 0   | 10                                  | 50       |
| " 10,                              | 15    | " 75,                               | 75       |
| " 15,                              | 20    | " 20, then for every 50             | 100 10 0 |
| " 20,                              | 25    | " 2 6 or any fractional part of £50 | 5 0      |

LEASE OR TACE (after 10th of October, 1854), of any Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, or Heritable Subjects, for any term of Years exceeding thirty-five, at a yearly rent, with or without any sum of money by way of fine, premium, or grassum.

|  | Term not exceeding 100 Years. | Term exceeding 100 Years. |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Where yearly rent not exceeding £5   | £ s. d.                       | £ s. d.                   |
| And where exceeding £5 and not exceeding £10                                     | 0 3 0                         | 0 6 0                     |
| " 10,  | 0 9 0                         | 0 18 0                    |
| " 15,  | 20                            | 0 12 0                    |
| " 20,  | 25                            | 0 15 0                    |
| " 25,  | 50                            | 1 10 0                    |
| " 50,  | 75                            | 2 5 0                     |
| " 75,  | 100                           | 4 10 0                    |
| Same exceeding £100, then for every £50, and also for any fractional part of £50 | 1 10 0                        | 3 0 0                     |

And where any such Lease or Tack as aforesaid shall be granted in consideration of a Fine, Premium, or Grassum, and also of a yearly Rent, such Lease or Tack shall be chargeable also, in respect of such Fine, Premium, or Grassum, with the *a*d* valorem* Stamp on Conveyances, pursuant to the 13 and 14 Vict., c. 97, see below. Exemption.—Any Lease under the Trinity College, Dublin, Leasing and Perpetuity Act, 1851.

CONVEYANCE of any kind or description whatsoever in England or Ireland, and Charter, Disposition, or Contract containing the first original Constitution of Feu and Ground Annual Rights in Scotland (not being a Lease or Tack for Years), in consideration of an annual sum payable in perpetuity or for any indefinite period, whether Fee Farm or other Rent, Feu Duty, Ground Annual, or otherwise.

*Exemptions.*—Any Lease for Lives not exceeding Three, or for a Term of Years determinable with Lives not exceeding Three, by whomsoever granted.

Any Grant in Fee Simple or in Perpetuity, made in Ireland under the Renewable Leasehold Conversion Act, or of the Trinity College (Dublin) Leasing and Perpetuity Act, 1851.

All which said Leases or Tacks and Grants respectively shall be chargeable with the Stamp Duties to which the same were subject and liable before the passing of the Act 16 and 17 Vict., c. 63.

Duplicate or Counterpart are chargeable with Progressive Duty, as under the 12th and 14th Vict., c. 97.

LICENSE TO DEMISE Copyhold Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or the Memorandum thereof, if granted out of Court, and the Copy of Court Roll of any such License, if granted in Court.

Where the clear yearly value of the Estate, .. The same Duty as on a Lease to a yearly Rent equal to such to be demised shall be expressed in such yearly Value, under the Act of License, and shall not exceed £75 .. .. the 13th and 14th Vict., c. 97.

And in all other cases, 10s.

CONVEYANCE (Pursuant to 13 and 14 Vict. c. 97):—

|  | £ s. d. | Exceed. £200 and not ex. £225 | £ s. d.    |
|--|---------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Purchase or consideration money expressed, not exceeding £25 | 0 2 6   | 225                           | 250 1 5 0  |
| Exceed. £25 and not ex. £50                                  | 0 5 0   | 250                           | 275 1 7 6  |
| " 50   | 75      | 275                           | 300 1 10 0 |
| " 75   | 100     | 300                           | 350 1 15 0 |
| " 100  | 125     | 350                           | 400 2 0 0  |
| " 125  | 150     | 400                           | 450 2 5 0  |
| " 150  | 175     | 450                           | 500 2 10 0 |
| " 175  | 200     | 500                           | 550 2 15 0 |
|  |         | 550                           | 600 3 0 0  |

### BILLS OF EXCHANGE, PROMISSORY NOTES, &c., (AFTER 10th OCTOBER, 1854).

Duty on Foreign Bills drawn out of United Kingdom to be denoted by Adhesive Stamps.

Promissory Note for the Payment in any other manner than to the Bearer on Demand of any sum of money:—

|               | s. d. |
|---------------|-------|
| Not exceeding | £5    |
| " 10          | 10    |
| " 25          | 25    |
| " 50          | 50    |
| " 75          | 75    |
| 100           | 100   |
| 200           | 200   |
| 300           | 300   |
| 400           | 400   |
| 500           | 500   |
| 750           | 750   |
| 1000          | 1000  |
| 1500          | 1500  |
| 2000          | 2000  |
| 3000          | 3000  |
| 4000          | 4000  |

|        | s. d. |
|--------|-------|
| " 200  | 200   |
| " 300  | 300   |
| " 400  | 400   |
| " 500  | 500   |
| " 750  | 750   |
| " 1000 | 1000  |
| " 1500 | 1500  |
| " 2000 | 2000  |
| " 3000 | 3000  |
| " 4000 | 4000  |

|        | s. d. |
|--------|-------|
| " 200  | 300   |
| " 300  | 400   |
| " 400  | 500   |
| " 500  | 600   |
| " 750  | 750   |
| " 1000 | 1000  |
| " 1500 | 1500  |
| " 2000 | 2000  |
| " 3000 | 3000  |
| " 4000 | 4000  |

|        | s. d. |
|--------|-------|
| " 200  | 300   |
| " 300  | 400   |
| " 400  | 500   |
| " 500  | 600   |
| " 750  | 750   |
| " 1000 | 1000  |
| " 1500 | 1500  |
| " 2000 | 2000  |
| " 3000 | 3000  |
| " 4000 | 4000  |

|        | s. d. |
|--------|-------|
| " 200  | 300   |
| " 300  | 400   |
| " 400  | 500   |
| " 500  | 600   |
| " 750  | 750   |
| " 1000 | 1000  |
| " 1500 | 1500  |
| " 2000 | 2000  |
| " 3000 | 3000  |
| " 4000 | 4000  |

|        | s. d. |
|--------|-------|
| " 200  | 300   |
| " 300  | 400   |
| " 400  | 500   |
| " 500  | 600   |
| " 750  | 750   |
| " 1000 | 1000  |
| " 1500 | 1500  |
| " 2000 | 2000  |
| " 3000 | 3000  |
| " 4000 | 4000  |

|        | s. d. |
|--------|-------|
| " 200  | 300   |
| " 300  | 400   |
| " 400  | 500   |
| " 500  | 600   |
| " 750  | 750   |
| " 1000 | 1000  |
| " 1500 | 1500  |
| " 2000 | 2000  |
| " 3000 | 3000  |
| " 4000 | 4000  |

|        | s. d. |
|--------|-------|
| " 200  | 300   |
| " 300  | 400   |
| " 400  | 500   |
| " 500  | 600   |
| " 750  | 750   |
| " 1000 | 1000  |
| " 1500 | 1500  |
| " 2000 | 2000  |
| " 3000 | 3000  |
| " 4000 | 4000  |

|        | s. d. |
|--------|-------|
| " 200  | 300   |
| " 300  | 400   |
| " 400  | 500   |
| " 500  | 600   |
| " 750  | 750   |
| " 1000 | 1000  |
| " 1500 | 1500  |
| " 2000 | 2000  |
| " 3000 | 3000  |
| " 4000 | 4000  |

|        | s. d. |
|--------|-------|
| " 200  | 300   |
| " 300  | 400   |
| " 400  | 500   |
| " 500  | 600   |
| " 750  | 750   |
| " 1000 | 1000  |
| " 1500 | 1500  |
| " 2000 | 2000  |
| " 3000 | 3000  |
| " 4000 | 4000  |

|        | s. d. |
|--------|-------|
| " 200  | 300   |
| " 300  | 400   |
| " 400  | 500   |
| " 500  | 600   |
| " 750  | 750   |
| " 1000 | 1000  |
| " 1500 | 1500  |
| " 2000 | 2000  |
| " 3000 | 3000  |
| " 4000 | 4000  |

|        | s. d. |
|--------|-------|
| " 200  | 300   |
| " 300  | 400   |
| " 400  | 500   |
| " 500  | 600   |
| " 750  | 750   |
| " 1000 | 1000  |
| " 1500 | 1500  |
| " 2000 | 2000  |
| " 3000 | 3000  |
| " 4000 | 4000  |

|        | s. d. |
|--------|-------|
| " 200  | 300   |
| " 300  | 400   |
| " 400  | 500   |
| " 500  | 600   |
| " 750  | 750   |
| " 1000 | 1000  |
| " 1500 | 1500  |
| " 2000 | 2000  |
| " 3000 | 3000  |
| " 4000 | 4000  |

|        | s. d. |
|--------|-------|
| " 200  | 300   |
| " 300  | 400   |
| " 400  | 500   |
| " 500  | 600   |
| " 750  | 750   |
| " 1000 | 1000  |
| " 1500 | 1500  |
| " 2000 | 2000  |
| " 3000 |       |

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1855.

**STAMP AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DUTIES (Continued.)**

**DRAFT OR ORDERS ON DEMAND.**

(See Receipts, on preceding page, as to adhesive Stamps.)

Draft or Order for the payment of any sum of money to the bearers, or to order, on demand, one penny.

**Exemptions.**—All cheques, drafts, or orders for the payment of money to the bearer on demand, drawn upon any banker, and issued within 15 miles of the bank upon which they are drawn. All letters of credit to persons abroad, authorising drafts on the United Kingdom. Such cheques, drafts, or orders, must (under a penalty of £50) be stamped with a penny stamp, if remitted, sent or circulated, beyond the 15 miles.

**BONDS AND MORTGAGES.**

|                                 |         |                                |         |
|---------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|---------|
| Not exceeding £50               | 1s. 3d. | Exceed. £150 and not exc. £200 | 5s 0d.  |
| Exceed. £50 and not exceed. 100 | 2 6     | " 200 "                        | 250 6 3 |
| 100 "                           | 150 3 9 | " 250 "                        | 300 7 6 |

And where the same shall exceed £300, then for every £100, and also or any fractional part of £100, 2s. 6d.

And where any such bond or mortgage shall contain 2160 words or upwards, then for every entire quantity of 1080 words contained therein over and above the first 1080 words there shall be charged the further progressive duty following: viz. where such bond or mortgage shall be chargeable with any *ad valorem* stamp duty, not exceeding 10s., a further progressive duty equal to the amount of such *ad valorem* duty or duties. And in every other case, a further progressive duty of 10s.

**LICENSES.**

|   | £ s. d. |  | £ s. d. |
|---|---------|--|---------|
| For Marriage, if special                            | 5 0     | For Appraisers                         | 2 0     |
| Ditto, if not special                               | 0 10    | Stage Carriage License, for            |         |
| For Bankers   | 30 0    | every carriage                         | 3 3     |
| For Pawnbrokers, within the                         |         | Hackney Carriage License, for          |         |
| limits of the twopenny post                         | 15 0    | every carriage, yearly duty            | 1 0     |
| Ditto, Elsewhere                                    | 7 10    | Ditto weekly duty, including           |         |
| Ditto, within the City of Dublin, and Circular Road | 7 10    | Sunday                                 | 0 7     |
| For Hawkers and Pedlars, on foot                    | 4 0     | Ditto, ditto, excepting Sunday         | 0 6     |
| Ditto, with one horse, ass, or mule                 | 8 0     | Premises                               | 3 3     |
|   |         | Ditto, not to be drunk on the Premises | 1 1     |

**PATENTS FOR INVENTIONS.—STAMP DUTIES ON.**

|  |             |         |
|--|-------------|---------|
| On petition for grant of letters-patent  | .. .. .. .. | £5 0 0  |
| On certificate of record of notice to proceed  | .. .. .. .. | 5 0 0   |
| On warrant of law officer for letters patent   | .. .. .. .. | 5 0 0   |
| On the sealing of letters-patent   | .. .. .. .. | 5 0 0   |
| On specification   | .. .. .. .. | 5 0 0   |
| On the letters-patent, or a duplicate thereof, before the expiration of the third year   | .. .. .. .. | 50 0 0  |
| On the letters-patent, or a duplicate thereof, before the expiration of the seventh year | .. .. .. .. | 100 0 0 |
| On certificate of record of notice of objections   | .. .. .. .. | 2 0 0   |
| On certificates of every search and inspection   | .. .. .. .. | 0 1 0   |
| On certificate of entry of assignment or licence   | .. .. .. .. | 0 5 0   |
| On certificate of assignment or licence  | .. .. .. .. | 0 5 0   |
| On application for disclaimer  | .. .. .. .. | 5 0 0   |
| On caveat against disclaimer   | .. .. .. .. | 2 0 0   |
| On office copies of documents, for every ninety words                                    | .. .. .. .. | 0 0 2   |

**PROPERTY AND INCOME-TAX.**

**YEARLY INCOMES OF £150 AND UPWARDS:**

For every twenty shillings of the annual value or amount, during the term of two years from the 5th of April, 1853, the yearly duty of 0 0 7 And for two years from the 5th of April, 1855, the yearly duty of 0 0 5 And for three years from the 5th of April, 1857, the yearly duty of 0 0 6

**YEARLY INCOMES OF £100 AND UNDER £150:**

For every twenty shillings of the annual value or amount, during the term of seven years from the 5th of April, 1853, the yearly duty of 0 0 5

And for the occupation of lands, tenements, or hereditaments (other than a dwelling-house occupied distinct from a farm of lands), for every twenty shillings of the annual value, during the first mentioned term of two years, the yearly duty of 3½d. in England, and 2½d. in Scotland and Ireland; and during the said further term of two years, the yearly duty of 3d. in England, and 2½d. in Scotland and Ireland; and during the said further term of three years, the yearly duty of 2½d. in England, and 1½d. in Scotland and Ireland. The Property and Income-tax then to cease.

An increased rate of Income-tax of 1s. 2d. in the pound is to be charged from the 5th of April, 1854, during the present war, until the 6th of April next after the ratification of peace. All present abatements to be proportionably allowed.

**SUCCESSION-DUTY.**

The Succession Duty Act grants the following duties to her Majesty, and they are to be considered as stamp duties:—Where the succession shall be the lineal issue or lineal ancestor of the predecessor, a duty at the rate of £1 per centum upon such value; where the succession shall be a brother or sister, or a descendant of a brother or sister of the predecessor, a duty at the rate of £3 per centum upon such value; where the succession shall be a brother or sister of the father or mother, or a descendant of a brother or sister of the father or mother of the predecessor, a duty at the rate of £5 per centum upon such value; where the succession shall be a brother or sister of the grandfather or grandmother, or a descendant of the brother or sister of the grandfather or grandmother of the predecessor, a duty at the rate of £6 per centum upon such value; and where the succession shall be in any other degree of collateral consanguinity to the predecessor than is described, or shall be described, or shall be a stranger in blood to him, a duty at the rate of £10 per centum upon such value. There is an interpretation clause of the terms, &c., used in the act. The term "personal property" is not to include leaseholds, but shall include money; and the term "property" is to include real and personal property, real estates, and all other property.

**DUTIES PAYABLE ON INHABITED HOUSES OF THE ANNUAL VALUE OF £20, OR UPWARDS.**

The duty is 6d. in the pound in respect of dwelling-houses occupied by any person in trade who shall expose to sale and sell any goods in any shop or warehouse, being part of the same dwelling-house, and in front and on the ground or basement story thereof; or by a person licensed to sell therein, by retail, beer, &c.; or as a farm-house by a tenant, or farm servant, and *bond fide* used for the purpose of husbandry only.—The duty is 9d. in the pound for dwelling-houses not occupied and used for any of the purposes described in the preceding.

**MALE SERVANTS.**

|   |             |        |
|---|-------------|--------|
| For every servant above 18 years of age, annually | .. .. .. .. | £1 1 0 |
| Ditto under 18 years of age                       | "           | 0 10 6 |

**ARMORIAL BEARINGS.**

|  |             |         |
|--|-------------|---------|
| When chargeable to carriage duty at £3 10s. (annually) | .. .. .. .. | £2 12 9 |
| When not so chargeable                                 | .. .. .. .. | 0 13 2  |

**DOGS.**

For every dog of whatever description or denomination .. .. £0 12 0

Provided always, that no person shall be chargeable with duty to any greater amount than £39 12s. for any number of hounds, or £9 for any number of greyhounds, kept by him in any year.

**EXEMPTIONS.**—Any person in respect of any dog *bond fide* and wholly kept and used in the care of sheep or cattle, or in driving or removing the same; provided no such dog shall be a greyhound, hound, pointer, setting dog, spaniel, lurcher, or terrier.

**HORSES LET TO HIRE.**

(Omnibuses and Cabs excepted.)

Where the person taking out the license shall keep at one and the same time to let for hire one horse or one carriage only .. .. £7 10 0

Where such person shall keep any greater number of horses or carriages, not exceeding two horses or two carriages .. .. .. .. 12 10 0

Not exceeding four horses or three carriages .. .. .. .. 20 0 0

Not exceeding eight horses or six carriages .. .. .. .. 30 0 0

Not exceeding twelve horses or nine carriages .. .. .. .. 40 0 0

Not exceeding sixteen horses or twelve carriages .. .. .. .. 50 0 0

Not exceeding twenty horses or fifteen carriages .. .. .. .. 60 0 0

Exceeding fifteen carriages .. .. .. .. 70 0 0

Exceeding twenty horses, then for every additional number of ten horses, and for any additional number less than ten over and above twenty, the further additional duty of .. .. .. .. 10 0 0

**DUTIES ON HORSES AND MULES.**

£ s. d.

3 17 0

For every horse kept or used for racing .. .. .. ..

For every other horse, and for every mule, exceeding respectively the height of thirteen hands of four inches to each hand, kept for the purpose of riding, or drawing any carriage chargeable with duty ..

1 1 0

For every horse and mule exceeding the height of thirteen hands, kept for any other purpose .. .. .. ..

0 10 6

For every pony or mule not exceeding the height of thirteen hands, kept for the purpose of riding, or drawing any carriage chargeable with duty .. .. .. ..

0 10 6

And for every pony or mule kept for any other purpose .. .. .. ..

0 5 3

**EXEMPTIONS.**—Any horses or mules kept solely for the purposes of trade or husbandry.

**DUTIES ON CARRIAGES.**

For every carriage with four wheels, where drawn by two or more horses or mules .. .. .. .. £. d.

3 10 0

Where drawn by one horse or mule only .. .. .. .. 2 0 0

For every carriage with four wheels, each being of less diameter than thirty inches, where drawn by two or more ponies or mules, neither of them exceeding thirteen hands in height .. .. .. ..

1 15 0

Where drawn by one such pony or mule only .. .. .. .. 1 0 0

For every carriage with less than four wheels, where drawn by two or more horses or mules .. .. .. .. 2 0 0

Where drawn by one horse or mule only .. .. .. .. 0 15 0

Where drawn by one pony or mule only not exceeding thirteen hands in height .. .. .. .. 0 10 0

Carriages kept and used solely for the purpose of being let for hire, one half of the above-mentioned duties respectively.

For any carriage with four wheels used by any common carrier .. .. .. .. 2 6 8

And where the same shall have less than four wheels .. .. .. .. 1 6 8

**EXEMPTIONS.**—Any waggon, van, cart, or other carriage, to be used solely in the course of trade or husbandry.

**HACKNEY CARRIAGES.—(CABS).**

**FARES BY DISTANCE.**—Carriages drawn by one horse.—For any distance within and not exceeding one mile, 6d.; for any distance exceeding one mile, 6d. for every mile, and for any part of a mile over and above any number of miles, completed within a circumference of four miles from Charing Cross. 1s. per mile for every mile or part of a mile beyond the four mile circumference when discharged beyond that circumference.

**FARE BY TIME.**—2s. for any time not exceeding one hour; 6d. for every fifteen minutes over the hour.

For every hackney carriage drawn by two horses one-third above the rates and fares hereinbefore mentioned.

The fares to be paid according to distance or time, at the option of the hirer, to be expressed at the commencement of the hiring; if not otherwise expressed, the fare to be paid according to distance.

No driver shall be compellable to hire his carriage for a fare to be paid according to time between eight o'clock in the evening and six in the morning.

When more than two persons shall be carried inside any hackney carriage, with more luggage than can be carried inside the carriage, a further sum of 2d. for every package carried outside the said carriage is to be paid by the hirer in addition to the above fares.

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